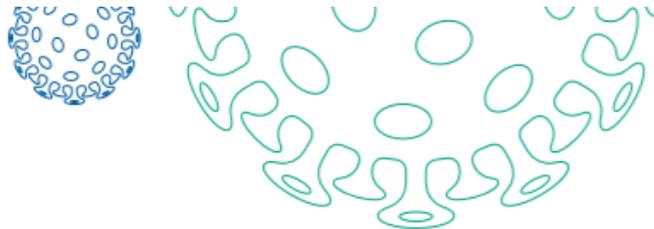


BEBCMAT – CORONAVIRUS INFORMATION

I am sure you are aware of the outbreak of coronavirus. There is currently no cause for concern at any of the schools in the trust, Christ the King Catholic Academy, St. Cuthbert's Catholic Academy or St. Mary's Catholic Academy. As we take the health and safety of our pupils, staff and families seriously, we are sharing the latest guidance from Public Health England and outlining what we can do together to minimise the risks for our family of schools.



Public Health
England



Advice on the coronavirus for places of education

How serious is the coronavirus?

- it can cause flu-like symptoms, including fever, cough & difficulty breathing
- the infection is not serious for most people, including children
- there is currently no vaccine
- most people get better with enough rest, water to drink and medicine for pain

How likely are you to catch the virus?

- you can only catch it if you have been close to a person who has the virus
- the chance of being in contact with the virus is currently low in the UK
- if you have travelled to areas where many people are infected, your chance of catching the virus is higher, i.e. China and any affected areas

How can you stop coronaviruses spreading?

If you need to cough or sneeze



Catch it with a tissue



Bin it



Kill it by washing your hands with soap & water or hand sanitiser



After breaks & sport activities



Before cooking & eating



On arrival at any childcare or educational setting



After using the toilet



Before leaving home



Try not to touch your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands



Do not share items that come into contact with your mouth such as cups & bottles



If unwell do not share items such as bedding, dishes, pencils & towels



Stop germs spreading with our e-Bug resources on hand and respiratory hygiene lesson plans for KS1, 2 and 3: campaignresources.phe.gov.uk/schools

What should you do if you feel unwell?

Keep away from others and stay at home to stop the infection spreading. Avoid public transport if you think you have symptoms of coronavirus. If you become unwell at a place of education, tell a member of staff and let them know if you have travelled to any other countries in the last 14 days.

If your staff member or parent thinks you have symptoms of coronavirus, they should call **NHS 111** for advice. Follow the UK Government advice for childcare or educational settings [gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19). Parents can visit [NHS.UK](https://www.nhs.uk) to find out more information. Teachers and support staff should follow the UK Government advice.

Staff, students and pupils who have returned from Iran, specific lockdown areas in northern Italy, special care zones in South Korea or Hubei province China (returned in the past 14 days) should self isolate, and NOT attend education or work for 14 days. See [NHS.UK](https://www.nhs.uk) for advice on coronavirus.

If there is an emergency, call 999 immediately



1.1 Latest government information

The government is closely monitoring the spread of the Coronavirus (Covid-19) and is taking action at home and abroad. The overall risk of coronavirus to the UK remains moderate. Public Health England has issued advice about how to minimise your risks of catching the virus. This information can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

The Foreign Office latest information and travel advice can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/travel-advice-novel-coronavirus>

The government has just issued a helpline for staff, parents and young people to answer any questions and give advice:

Phone: 0800 046 8687

Email: DfE.coronaviruhelpline@education.gov.uk

(Opening hours 8am to 6pm, Monday to Friday)

1.2 Advice for parents/guardians

You should not be unduly worried about the possibility of your children catching the Coronavirus. There is no reason why your child shouldn't continue to attend nursery or school as normal. We know that some families are planning to travel during the school holidays, so please refer to the latest travel advice from the government.

1.3 What action should parents take?

Please support the campaign to reduce the spread of the virus by promoting basic hygiene practices, such as regularly washing hands and always sneezing into a tissue to stem the spread of viruses.

How to avoid catching or spreading germs

There are things you can do to help stop viruses like coronavirus spreading.

Do

- cover your mouth and nose with a tissue (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze
- put used tissues in the bin immediately
- wash your hands with soap and water often – use hand sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available
- try to avoid close contact with people who are unwell

Don't

- do not touch your eyes, nose or mouth if your hands are not clean

Check if you need medical help

NHS 111 has an online coronavirus service that can tell you if you need medical help and advise you what to do. Use this service if:

- you think you might have coronavirus
- you've recently been to a country or area with a high risk of coronavirus – see our [coronavirus advice for travellers](#)
- you've been in close contact with someone with coronavirus

Do not go to a GP surgery, pharmacy or hospital. Call [111](#) if you need to speak to someone.

1.4 What action BEBCMAT schools will take

The latest guidance to schools (02/03/20) states that no school should close in response to a suspected (or confirmed) COVID-19 case unless directed to do so by Public Health England.

All schools in the trust will:

- Encourage pupils to wash their hands often with soap and water or sanitiser
- Increase the cleaning of frequently touched objects and surfaces
- Educate pupils (age appropriate) about how to minimise the spread of infections
- Continue to monitor guidance and keep staff, pupils and families informed of any changes through the websites.

1.5 If you are concerned:

If you are concerned about any school-related issues, please contact a senior leader at the school.

If you are concerned that you or someone in your family may be infected by the corona virus, ring NHS 111 for advice.

