



St. Mary Queen of Martyrs
Voluntary Catholic Academy

Nidderdale
Hull, HU7 4BS
Tel: (01482) 825625

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Email: admin@smqhull.org



Interim Head of School
Mrs A McIntosh

Part of St Cuthbert's Roman Catholic Academy Trust Company No: 09023802 Registered Office: St Mary's College, Hull, HU6 7TN

6th March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

COVID-19 (Coronavirus) guidance update.

I would like to reassure you all that as a school we are following the latest guidance from the Department of Education, the Government and Public Health England. I have included below the guidance from the Department of Education regarding the Coronavirus, which is also on our school website and updated daily.

We are encouraging all the children to wash their hands regularly whilst singing a nursery rhyme or counting to 20 with soap and warm water and would appreciate your support in reiterating this at home. Our cleaners are fully disinfecting the school every day and tissues are available in every classroom to encourage the children to "catch it, bin it, kill it". Please send your child into school with their own water bottle to prevent sharing of bottles/cups.

I can confirm that as of today, 6th March 2020, we do NOT have any suspected cases linked to the school and do not know of any pupils, their families or staff that have travelled from any of the areas that have been identified as needing self-isolation on return. Please see the latest advice below if you have any concerns.

If any child is absent from school without a valid reason, this will be recorded as unauthorised and will be reported to the Local Authority which could result in a fine or prosecution.

If you have any concerns or require any further information with regards to the Coronavirus please contact the Department for Education Coronavirus helpline (details shown below).

Thank you for your continued support

Yours sincerely

Mrs A McIntosh

Be the best you can be - Jesus loves you always



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Department for Education

The importance of hygiene

Personal hygiene is the most important way we can tackle COVID-19, especially washing hands more; and the catch it, bin it, kill it strategy for those with coughs and sneezes.

Wash your hands more often for 20 seconds with soap and hot water.

In addition to handwashing before eating and after sneezing, both children and staff should also wash hands after using toilets and after travelling on public transport.

Please help us in sharing simple and effective hand hygiene messages:

- <https://twitter.com/NHSuk/status/1235112744917049346>

Updated travel advice for travellers returning from Italy

The advice remains the same for travellers returning from the lockdown areas of Italy, that you should self-isolate even if you are not showing symptoms. The advice for other parts of Italy has been expanded to cover the whole country: if you have returned from anywhere else in Italy outside of the lockdown areas, you should self-isolate if you develop symptoms and call NHS 111.

The latest travel guidance can be found here:

- <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-specified-countries-and-areas/covid-19-specified-countries-and-areas-with-implications-for-returning-travellers-or-visitors-arriving-in-the-uk>

Further information on what you should do if you are asked to self-isolate can be found here:

- <https://publichealthmatters.blog.gov.uk/2020/02/20/what-is-self-isolation-and-why-is-it-important/>

Department for Education coronavirus helpline

The Department for Education coronavirus helpline is now available to answer questions about COVID-19 relating to education and children's social care. Staff, parents and young people can contact this helpline as follows:

Phone: 0800 046 8687

Email: DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk

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

Where to find the latest information

Updates on COVID-19:

- <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

Guidance for educational settings:

- <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19>

Travel advice for those travelling and living overseas:

- <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/travel-advice-novel-coronavirus>

Latest Department for Education information:

- <https://twitter.com/educationgovuk>
- <https://www.facebook.com/educationgovuk/>

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