



Tuesday 17th March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

### **CORONAVIRUS UPDATE**

I would like to update you as to where we stand as a Trust with regard to Coronavirus. The situation is ever changing by the hour but I would like to issue the following update. Currently our schools remain open and in full operation.

We will continue to keep you informed of any further updates and changes. In the meantime there are several measures which schools have put in place to help minimise risk and spread of infection.

Excursions, assemblies, travel, concerts and other events such as parents days/evenings have already been cancelled to limit exposure in line with government recommendations.

### **ILLNESS**

We ask that you are vigilant and responsible and if your child is feeling unwell and displays symptoms (**high temperature, prolonged cough**) they are to stay at home and self-isolate for fourteen days.

Your school will send children home if they are showing these symptoms.

### **HANDWASHING.**

Public Health England advise that handwashing continues to be extremely important and vital to minimise the spread of the infection. Staff, children, pupils, students and families will be reminded to wash their hands for 20 seconds more frequently than normal.

Staff will also be reminding pupils to avoid hand to mouth contact.

### **SOCIAL DISTANCING**

We are also employing a social distancing strategy in order to minimise risk and in the best interest of pupils, staff and our community.

### **EXTERNAL EXAMINATIONS**

At this time all external examinations are scheduled to run as normal. We will update you as a matter of urgency if more information comes to light on this matter.

*Forming lives ready to face the future*



### **CONTINGENCY PLANNING**

We have ensured all schools have the necessary contingency plans in place for any unexpected closure and supporting learning through online platforms and contact.

### **PLEASE INFORM YOUR SCHOOLS IF YOU HAVE RECENTLY CHANGED YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS OR MOBILE NUMBERS.**

We ask for your support at this time. This is a situation that is ever changing and unprecedented and the safety of our pupils, staff and families is our priority. Our aim is to keep things as normal as possible for our pupils but to also educate, in an age appropriate way, about how to stay safe and healthy, whilst also minimising any fear or panic that may arise.

Thank you once again for your continued support and understanding and please keep the sick and vulnerable within our community in your prayers at this very difficult time.

Kind Regards

Hugh Hegarty CEO  
NPQH | M.Sc. | PGCCGC | B.Ed. Hons. | CTC  
Nicholas Postgate Catholic Academy Trust