

Blessed George Napier Catholic School and Sixth Form

A Youth Sport Trust Lead School for Inclusion

Addison Road, Banbury
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Compassion
Respect
Truth
Service
Forgiveness



16 March 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian

Coronavirus

As I am sure you are aware, the situation regarding the Coronavirus outbreak continues to be a rapidly changing one and, as a school, we are continually reviewing the advice. As always, the health and safety of our staff and pupils is our primary concern.

As of this morning, advice received from the Department for Education is that all staff and students should attend school unless they are experiencing symptoms of the Coronavirus. Therefore students with family members who are self-isolating are not required to stay at home. Only individuals who are experiencing symptoms of the Coronavirus should remain at home and self-isolate for 7 days from the onset of symptoms. The advice states that people who are feeling better after 7 days of isolation and no longer have a high temperature can return to their normal routine.

Further information regarding symptoms of the Coronavirus are available by calling 111 or visiting NHS111 online.

If your child is required to self-isolate, please contact the School Attendance Officer in the normal way giving full details of the situation. As with our normal procedures for absence, please ring the Attendance Officer every day during your child's absence to let us know they will not be in school. We are aware that certain people with underlying health conditions are being advised by their medical teams to self-isolate as a precautionary measure. If this applies to your family, again please contact the school.

The Department for Education also advise that if any student or member of staff develops symptoms of Coronavirus during the school day, they should go home immediately. Therefore, please ensure that we are able to contact you at all times.

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Principal: **Mr Fraser Long, B.Eng (Hons), MA.** headteacher@bgn.oxon.sch.uk

An academy within The Pope Francis Catholic Multi Academy Company which is a company limited by guarantee and an exempt charity registered in England and Wales with company number 9113542 and registered address Addison Road, Banbury, Oxon, OX16 9DG.

"The school's contribution to pupils' personal, spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is exemplary. Pupils go out of their way to do good things. They act as positive role models for younger children." **Ofsted, June 2017**

We have decided to take a number of measures as a precaution and also to help us with the efficient running of the school and we ask for your understanding at this very difficult time for everyone:-

- We have taken the decision to cancel all upcoming school trips for the remainder of this academic term. This will include all sporting fixtures. We will do everything in our power to reclaim the cost for cancelled trips and will inform you regarding this in due course. However, refunds cannot be guaranteed.
- We have decided to cancel the Yr10 work experience which was planned for week beginning Monday 23 March so Yr10s should attend school as normal that week.

This morning the students have been reminded in Assembly of the importance of regular hand washing and maintaining hygiene. We have a very stringent hygiene regime in school and additional measures have been put in place and will continue.

There may be further action that we will be required to take and we will keep you informed as the situation develops.

We will update parents of students sitting external exams this summer with any changes or advice received from JCQ (Joint Council for Qualifications) who administer exam arrangements.

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

Telephone: 0800 046 8687

Email: DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk

Opening hours: 8 am to 6 pm Mondays to Fridays

Communication between BGN and parents for general issues will primarily be through the school website so please check this regularly.

Please be assured the school is adhering to all relevant guidelines to keep our staff and students as safe as possible in the current circumstances.

Yours sincerely



Fraser Long
Principal

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