

# Coronavirus update

Dear parents/carers,

As you're probably aware, the government's guidance on the coronavirus has changed from the 'contain' phase to one of delaying the spread of the virus. We're getting in touch to let you know what we're doing in light of this, and to inform you how you can support us in helping make sure our school community keeps safe and calm.

We'd like to reassure you that at **Bradford Christian School** we're taking all of the necessary steps to protect our community and are continuing to follow official guidance from the government and local authority.

## What's the current situation?

- The **school remains open** – this is the current official guidance we've been given
- All key school functions continue to run as normal
- Pupils should attend unless they feel unwell – if your child has any of the following symptoms they **should remain at home for 14 days**:
  - a new, continuous cough and/or
  - a temperature
- If your child is unwell, report this as you would normally by messaging [office@bxs.org.uk](mailto:office@bxs.org.uk), calling school on 01274532649 or text 07520649649
- All upcoming trips in the foreseeable future will be cancelled.
- At the moment exams are still scheduled to run on the same dates.
- We'll keep you up to date with any changes to the current situation.

## What we're doing to protect and support pupils and staff

- If we have a pupil feeling ill on the school premises we will contact you immediately.
- We have ensured common areas are being well cleaned (door handles, light switches etc).
- We are enforcing regular hand-washing throughout the school day.
- We are delivering lessons and assemblies for pupils about hygiene and how to deal with anxiety.
- Middle and Upper School have had an informative and myth-busting assembly on viruses.

## What we need you to do

- If you've recently changed your contact details, please inform the school office **as soon as possible** via email.
- Drop off and pick up your children outside school. We are trying to limit the number of adults entering the school premises.
- Talk to your children about the coronavirus. It's a scary time and we should make sure children feel supported. [BBC Newsround](#) has regular updates for younger children and [YoungMinds](#) has practical steps older children can take to help with anxiety.
- Come and collect your child straight away if we ask you to (we'll contact you if they become ill with either a temperature or a new, continuous cough)
- We have contingency plans to use an online platform to provide remote teaching in the event of a closure. For children in Year 5 and up, check that your child has access to Google Classroom from home, and let us know if there are any issues, so we can make sure we're well prepared for remote

learning if the school does need to close at some point. EYFS to Year 4 will send paper copies and emails with appropriate work.

### **What happens if the school has to close?**

We'll only close if we're either officially advised to do so or we don't have enough staff to run the school.

In either case, we'll:

- alert parents to closure, via email, text and a post on our website
- let parents know when the school will be reopened via email and our website
- Use a mix of emails, activity packs and Google Classroom to set work for pupils during closure. We will communicate how you can best support your children.

Please keep in mind that we're only sending out this information to help the school community prepare.

**There are currently no plans to close.**

### **If you have any questions**

Please consult the:

- School office, if you have any questions about our response to this issue
- [NHS](#), if you want to know more about the symptoms of coronavirus. If you think you or your child may have the symptoms, use [NHS 111 online](#) if at all possible before calling 111
- Department for Education's coronavirus helpline: 0800 046 8687, if you have any questions about the government's response to coronavirus in relation to schools
- Government's [travel advice](#), if you want to know whether any upcoming trip or holiday you're taking abroad should go ahead

It's a tricky time and we know you're worried about the impact this might have on our community. It's important we keep each other safe and talk about these events to help with any anxiety.

Thank you for your continued support.

Bradford Christian School Senior Leadership Team