

# The Newman Catholic Collegiate



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Accounting Officer: Mr Ian Beardmore

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Friday 20th March 2020

Dear Parents,

I would like to thank you for all your support during this most difficult time and am now going to ask for further support so as a collegiate we will concentrate our resources to the most vulnerable and ensure the key services in the country can operate.

The government are clear. Irrespective of whether you fit the criteria or not then the advice is clear your children should NOT attend school. We need to work together to ensure the front line staff can function. Parents who do not fit the criteria will NOT be allowed into school. Please support the decisions that we make.

We have a duty to provide care for a 'limited number' of children of 'critical' workers but we ALL also have a duty to follow the government's advice regarding social distancing and mass gatherings. It would be irresponsible for us to not take this into account.

We have issued advice to our staff to work from home if they fall into the vulnerable group. Whilst we cannot and will not enforce the below guidance I feel we need to fully inform parents so they can make their own informed choices. I ask you to consider that you **do not** send your children to school unless absolutely necessary if they or anyone in your household has any of the below;

- aged 70 or older (regardless of medical conditions)
- under 70 with an underlying health condition listed below (ie anyone instructed to get a flu jab as an adult each year on medical grounds):
  - chronic (long-term) respiratory diseases, such as [asthma](#), [chronic obstructive pulmonary disease \(COPD\)](#), emphysema or [bronchitis](#)
  - chronic heart disease, such as [heart failure](#)
  - [chronic kidney disease](#)
  - chronic liver disease, such as [hepatitis](#)
  - chronic neurological conditions, such as [Parkinson's disease](#), [motor neurone disease](#), [multiple sclerosis \(MS\)](#), a learning disability or cerebral palsy
  - [diabetes](#)
- problems with your spleen – for example, [sickle cell](#) disease or if you have had your spleen removed
- a weakened immune system as the result of conditions such as [HIV and AIDS](#), or medicines such as [steroid tablets](#) or [chemotherapy](#)
- being seriously overweight (a body mass index (BMI) of 40 or above)
- those who are pregnant

People falling into this group are those who may be at particular risk due to complex health problems such as:

- people who have received an organ transplant and remain on ongoing immunosuppression medication
- people with cancer who are undergoing active chemotherapy or radiotherapy
- people with cancers of the blood or bone marrow such as leukaemia who are at any stage of treatment
- people with severe chest conditions such as cystic fibrosis or severe asthma (requiring hospital admissions or courses of steroid tablets)
- people with severe diseases of body systems, such as severe kidney disease (dialysis)

Once again I thank you for all your support and send you all my prayers and best wishes.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J Beardmore', written in a cursive style.

Mr Beardmore  
Senior Executive Leader  
Newman Catholic Collegiate