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[Superintendent of Schools Issues Information and Weekly Updates Relating to the 2019 Novel Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) for Catholic School Families](#)

March 6, 2020: Superintendent of Schools Michael J. Deegan to provide parents and guardians of students attending Catholic Schools across the Archdiocese with weekly updates with respect to the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19).

[Click here to find English and Spanish versions of today's update](#), which includes:

- Coronavirus activity in New York continues to evolve and dominate the news. In order for you to make informed decisions in the best interest of your child(ren) and your families, ***we are committed to providing you with weekly updates containing information from federal, state and local health authorities, as it relates to our Catholic schools.***
- On Friday, February 28, in addition to providing you with several bulletins from health officials, we made you aware of our policy which stated that any student or staff member who traveled internationally must

Select category



receive a doctor's clearance in order to return to school. ***Additionally, never has it been more important that any student or staff member who may be sick stay home.***

- **For additional support regarding UPK, Pre-K for All and 3-K students**, please contact the Office of Early Childhood at (646)794-2881.
- We remain singularly focused on the health and wellness of everyone in our communities, and our sacred mission remains Catholic education. **Keeping in mind we teach the wholechild, you can [click here to find “Talking to Children About Coronavirus, A Parent Resource \(English\),”](#) or [“Hable con sus hijos sobre el COVID-19 \(Coronavirus\) Un recurso para padres.”](#)** These documents are provided by the National Association of School Psychologists and the National Association of School Nurses.

USEFUL LINKS FOR MORE INFORMATION

- [Center for Disease Control and Prevention](#)
- [New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene](#)
- [New York State Department of Health](#)
- [New York State Education Department](#)
- [U.S. Department of Education](#)
- [World Health Organization](#)
- [New York State Center for School Health](#)
- [National Institutes of Health](#)
- [County Health Officials of New York](#) (NYS County Health Department Contact Information & Websites)

February 29, 2020: Superintendent of Schools Michael J. Deegan wrote parents and guardians of students attending Catholic Schools across the Archdiocese today with an important update. In his letter, Mr. Deegan wrote:

“We all have seen the rising concern surrounding the novel

coronavirus in the news. For weeks, the Health and Safety Task Force from the Archdiocese of New York's Office of the Superintendent of Schools has been in communication with federal, state, and city officials, monitoring the situation to ensure the health and safety of our schools, and evaluating policies and procedures to keep our students and adults safe. I am reaching out to provide additional information and the following important policy update."

Effective March 2nd, 2020: For students and school personnel returning from international travel, the following policy for the Archdiocese of New York is in place: All students and school personnel returning from international travel are required to get written medical clearance from their physician before returning to school. Parents must submit this written medical clearance letter signed and stamped by a licensed physician to the principal.

For additional support regarding UPK, Pre-K for All and 3-K students please contact the Office of Early Childhood at (646)794-2881.

Click on the links below for critical updates provided today:

- [Letter to Parents & Guardians from Superintendent Michael J. Deegan](#)
- [NYSED Coronavirus Letter](#)
- [NYC Coronavirus Letter](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQ\) and Guidance for the 2019 Novel Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) for NYC Schools and Families](#)
- For accurate, up-to-date information on COVID-19, see #6 below, visit:
 - [cdc.gov/coronavirus](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus) or call the CDC Health Line at 1-800-232-4636
 - [nyc.gov/health/coronavirus](https://www.nyc.gov/health/coronavirus) or call 311

(interpretation and translation services are available)

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