



Bishop Anstey High  
School East and Trinity  
College East

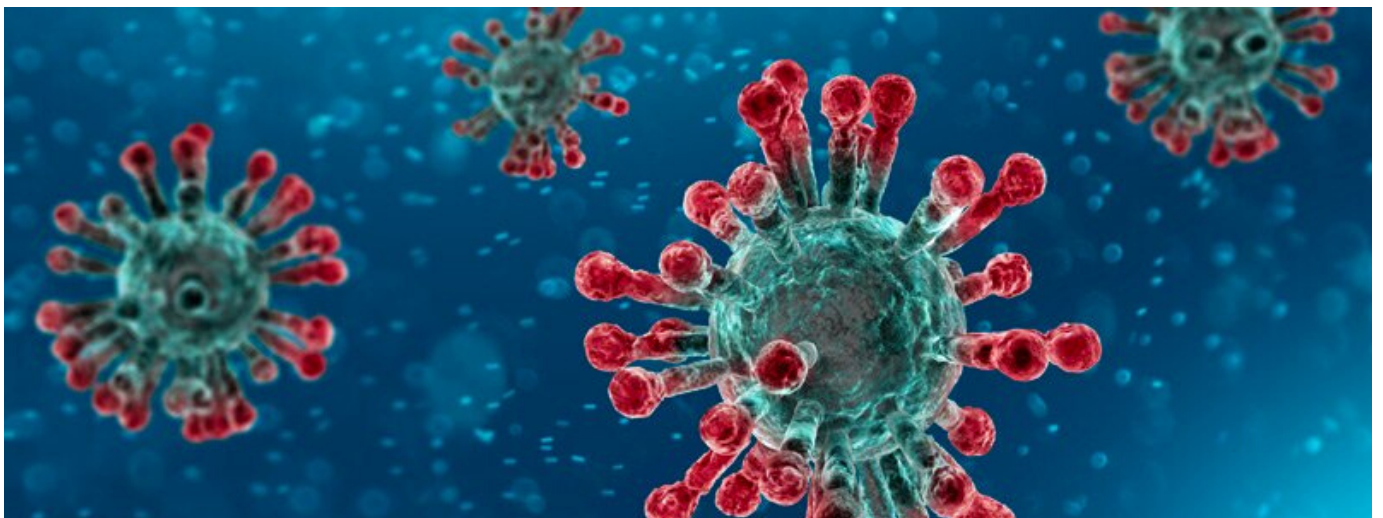


Selflessly Serving  
Our Community



# BATCE STAR

Official Newsletter of Bshop Anstey High School East and Trinity College East



## THIS SPECIAL EDITION FOCUSES ON COVID-19:

- **FACTS ABOUT COVID-19**
- **GLOBAL, INTERNATIONAL, REGIONAL AND LOCAL STATISTICS**
- **AWARENESS AT BATCE**
- **BATCE COLLABORATIVE WORK**

## FACTS ABOUT COVID-19

*An extract from “Key Messages and Actions for COVID-19 Prevention and Control in Schools”, UNICEF March 2020.*

### What is COVID-19?

COVID-19 is a disease caused by a new strain of coronavirus. ‘CO’ stands for corona, ‘VI’ for virus, and ‘D’ for disease. Formerly, this disease was referred to as ‘2019 novel coronavirus’ or ‘2019-nCoV.’ The COVID-19 virus is a new virus linked to the same family of viruses as Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) and some types of the common cold.

### **What are the symptoms of COVID-19?**

Symptoms can include fever, cough and shortness of breath. In more severe cases, infection can cause pneumonia or breathing difficulties. More rarely, the disease can be fatal. These symptoms are similar to the flu (influenza) or the common cold, which are a lot more common than COVID-19. This is why testing is required to confirm if someone has COVID-19.

### **How does COVID-19 spread?**

The virus is transmitted through direct contact with respiratory droplets of an infected person (generated through coughing and sneezing). Individuals can also be infected from and touching surfaces contaminated with the virus and touching their face (e.g., eyes, nose, mouth). The COVID-19 virus may survive on surfaces for several hours, but simple disinfectants can kill it.

### **Who is most at risk?**

We are learning more about how COVID-19 affects people every day. Older people, and people with chronic medical conditions, such as diabetes and heart disease, appear to be more at risk of developing severe symptoms. As this is a new virus, we are still learning about how it affects children. We know it is possible for people of any age to be infected with the virus, but so far there are relatively few cases of COVID-19 reported among children. This is a new virus and we need to learn more about how it affects children. The virus can be fatal in rare cases, so far mainly among older people with pre-existing medical conditions.

### **What is the treatment for COVID-19?**

There is no currently available vaccine for COVID-19. However, many of the symptoms can be treated and getting early care from a healthcare provider can make the disease less dangerous. There are several clinical trials that are being conducted to evaluate potential therapeutics for COVID-19.

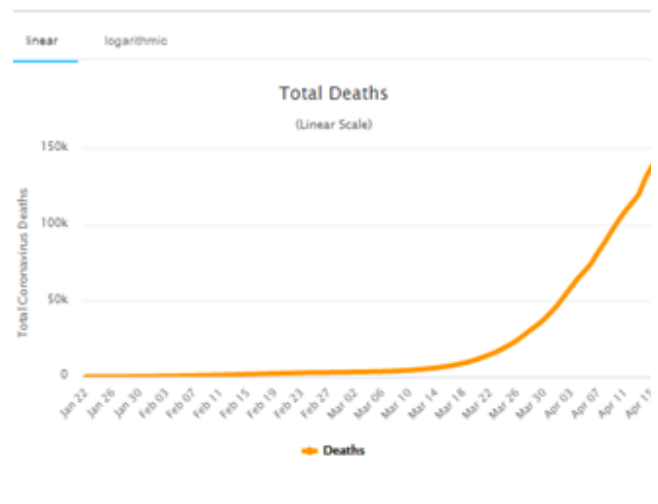
### **How can the spread of COVID-19 be slowed down or prevented?**

As with other respiratory infections like the flu or the common cold, public health measures are critical to slow the spread of illnesses. Public health measures are everyday preventive actions that include: ✓ staying home when sick; ✓ covering mouth and nose with flexed elbow or tissue when coughing or sneezing. Dispose of used tissue immediately; ✓ washing hands often with soap and water; and ✓ cleaning frequently touched surfaces and objects. As we learn more about COVID-19 public health officials may recommend additional actions

# GLOBAL STATISTICS

Krystin Henry

As of April 16, 2020 there are 2,129,427 cases of COVID-19, 142,712 related deaths and 539,000 recoveries. Additionally there are 1,447,715 active cases (patients who are currently affected) and among those 1,390,478 (96%) are in mild condition while 57,237 (4%) are in critical condition. In terms of closed cases, there are 681,712 and 539,000 (79%) of which have recovered/ been discharged while 142,712 (21%) are deaths.



# INTERNATIONAL STATISTICS

Krystin Henry

As of April 16, 2020 COVID-19 is affecting 210 countries and territories and 2 international conveyances. The country most affected currently is the United States of America with 465,240 total cases and among this is 423,589 active cases, 16,512 deaths, and 25,139 recoveries. Currently, the top 10 affected countries are the USA, Spain, Italy, France, Germany, the UK, China, Iran, Turkey, and Belgium.

Country, Other	Total Cases	New Cases	Total Deaths	New Deaths	Total Recovered	Active Cases	Serious, Critical	Tot Cases/ 1M pop	Deaths/ 1M pop	Total Tests	Tests/ 1M pop
World	2,129,427	+42,996	142,712	+4,093	539,000	1,447,715	57,237	273	18.3		
<a href="#">USA</a>	654,343	+6,195	33,490	+902	56,618	564,235	13,369	1,977	101	3,304,125	9,982
<a href="#">Spain</a>	182,816	+2,157	19,130	+318	74,797	88,889	7,371	3,910	409	930,230	19,896
<a href="#">Italy</a>	168,941	+3,786	22,170	+525	40,164	106,607	2,936	2,794	367	1,178,403	19,490
<a href="#">France</a>	147,863		17,167		30,955	99,741	6,457	2,265	263	333,807	5,114
<a href="#">Germany</a>	135,663	+910	3,867	+63	77,000	54,796	4,288	1,619	46	1,728,357	20,629
<a href="#">UK</a>	103,093	+4,617	13,729	+861	N/A	89,020	1,559	1,519	202	417,649	6,152
<a href="#">China</a>	82,341	+46	3,342		77,892	1,107	95	57	2		
<a href="#">Iran</a>	77,995	+1,606	4,869	+92	52,229	20,897	3,594	929	58	310,340	3,695
<a href="#">Turkey</a>	74,193	+4,801	1,643	+125	7,089	65,461	1,854	880	19	518,143	6,144
<a href="#">Belgium</a>	34,809	+1,236	4,857	+417	7,562	22,390	1,182	3,003	419	134,303	11,588

# REGIONAL STATISTICS

*Krystin Henry*

According to CARPHA’s (Caribbean Public Health Agency) Situation Report, No. 33 dated April 14, 2020, 33 countries, areas or territories in the Caribbean have been affected by COVID-19. There are 6087 cases, 2071 of which are new, 450 recoveries (184 new) and 316 deaths (131 new).

Additionally, CARPHA adds that according to the WHO (World Health Organization) Risk Assessment, the Caribbean is listed as very high, meaning that the risk of additional importation of COVID-19 to the Caribbean region is very high.

In CARPHA’s epidemiological summary it is reported that additional cases were confirmed in 29 countries thus causing a 52% increase in the total number of cases in the region to 6087 in 33 countries/ territories.

The top 10 most affected countries/ territories in the Caribbean are:

- Dominican Republic (3755 cases)
- Puerto Rico (903 cases)
- Cuba (862 cases)
- Martinique (158 cases)
- Guadeloupe (145 cases)
- Jamaica (125 cases)
- Trinidad and Tobago (114 cases)
- Aruba (93 cases)
- Bermuda (81 cases)
- Barbados (75 cases)

Country, Other	Total Cases	New Cases	Total Deaths	New Deaths	Total Recovered	Active Cases	Serious, Critical	Tot Cases/ 1M pop	Deaths/ 1M pop	Total Tests	Tests/ 1M pop
<a href="#">Dominican Republic</a>	3,755	+141	196	+7	215	3,344	121	346	18	12,229	1,127
<a href="#">Panama</a>	3,751		103		75	3,573	106	869	24	16,854	3,906
<a href="#">Cuba</a>	862	+48	27	+3	171	664	16	76	2	21,837	1,928
<a href="#">Costa Rica</a>	626		4		67	555	11	123	0.8	9,089	1,784
<a href="#">Honduras</a>	426	+7	35	+4	9	382	10	43	4	2,012	203
<a href="#">Guatemala</a>	196	+16	5		19	172	3	11	0.3	7,200	402
<a href="#">El Salvador</a>	164	+5	6		33	125	2	25	0.9	8,333	1,285
<a href="#">Martinique</a>	158		8		73	77	17	421	21		
<a href="#">Guadeloupe</a>	145		8		67	70	13	362	20		
<a href="#">Jamaica</a>	125		5		21	99		42	2	1,391	470
<a href="#">Trinidad and Tobago</a>	114		8		20	86		81	6	1,282	916
<a href="#">Aruba</a>	93		1		39	53	1	871	9	1,198	11,221
<a href="#">Bermuda</a>	81		5		33	43	3	1,301	80	527	8,462
<a href="#">Barbados</a>	75	+2	5		15	55	4	261	17	900	3,132
<a href="#">Cayman Islands</a>	60		1		6	53	3	913	15	636	9,677
<a href="#">Sint Maarten</a>	57	+4	9		12	36	6	1,329	210	163	3,802
<a href="#">Bahamas</a>	53		8		6	39	1	135	20		

Country, Other	Total Cases	New Cases	Total Deaths	New Deaths	Total Recovered	Active Cases	Serious, Critical	Tot Cases/ 1M pop	Deaths/ 1M pop	Total Tests	Tests/ 1M pop
<a href="#">Haiti</a>	41		3			38		4	0.3	365	32
<a href="#">Saint Martin</a>	35		2		13	20	5	905	52		
<a href="#">Antigua and Barbuda</a>	23		3	+1	3	17	1	235	31	73	745
<a href="#">Belize</a>	18		2			16	1	45	5	567	1,426
<a href="#">Dominica</a>	16				8	8		222		345	4,793
<a href="#">Saint Lucia</a>	15				11	4		82		319	1,737
<a href="#">Curaçao</a>	14		1		10	3		85	6	230	1,402
<a href="#">Grenada</a>	14					14	2	124		92	818
<a href="#">Saint Kitts and Nevis</a>	14					14		263		234	4,399
<a href="#">St. Vincent Grenadines</a>	12				1	11		108		87	784
<a href="#">Turks and Caicos</a>	11	+1	1			10		284	26	71	1,834
<a href="#">Greenland</a>	11				11	0		194		912	16,065
<a href="#">Montserrat</a>	11				1	10	1	2,204		36	7,212
<a href="#">Nicaragua</a>	9		1		4	4		1	0.2		
<a href="#">St. Barth</a>	6				4	2		607			
<a href="#">Anguilla</a>	3				1	2		200			
<a href="#">British Virgin Islands</a>	3				2	1		99			
<a href="#">Caribbean Netherlands</a>	3					3		114		10	381
<a href="#">Saint Pierre Miquelon</a>	1					1		173			

## LOCAL STATISTICS

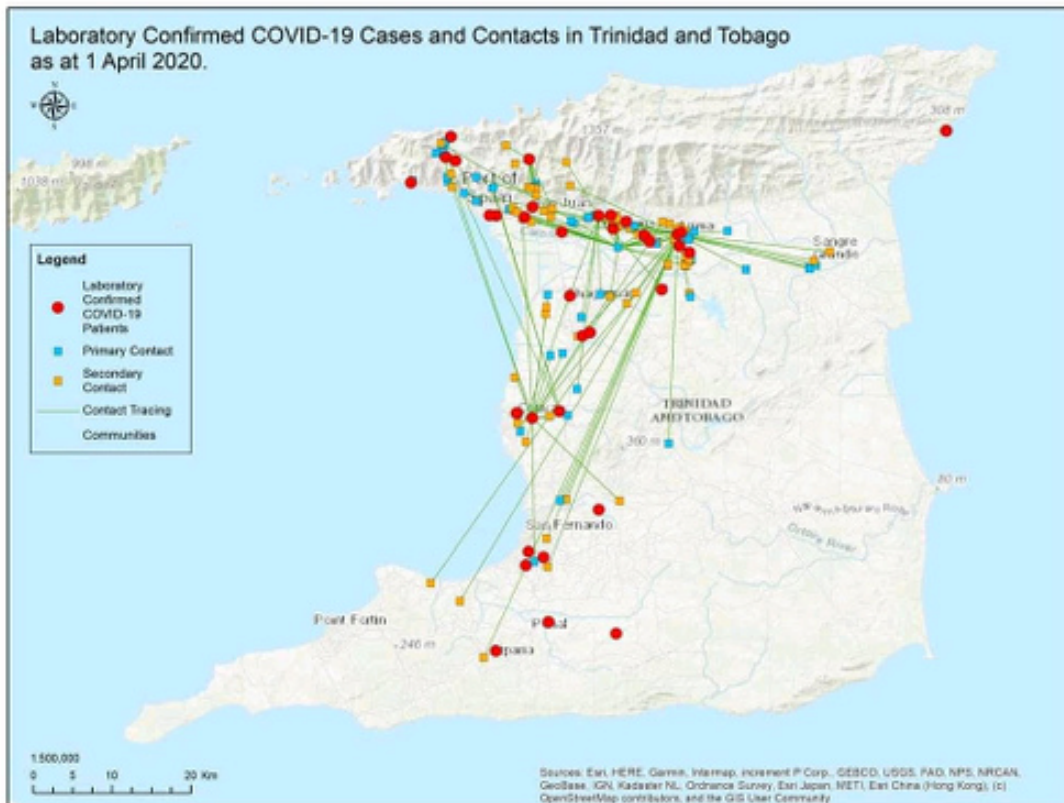
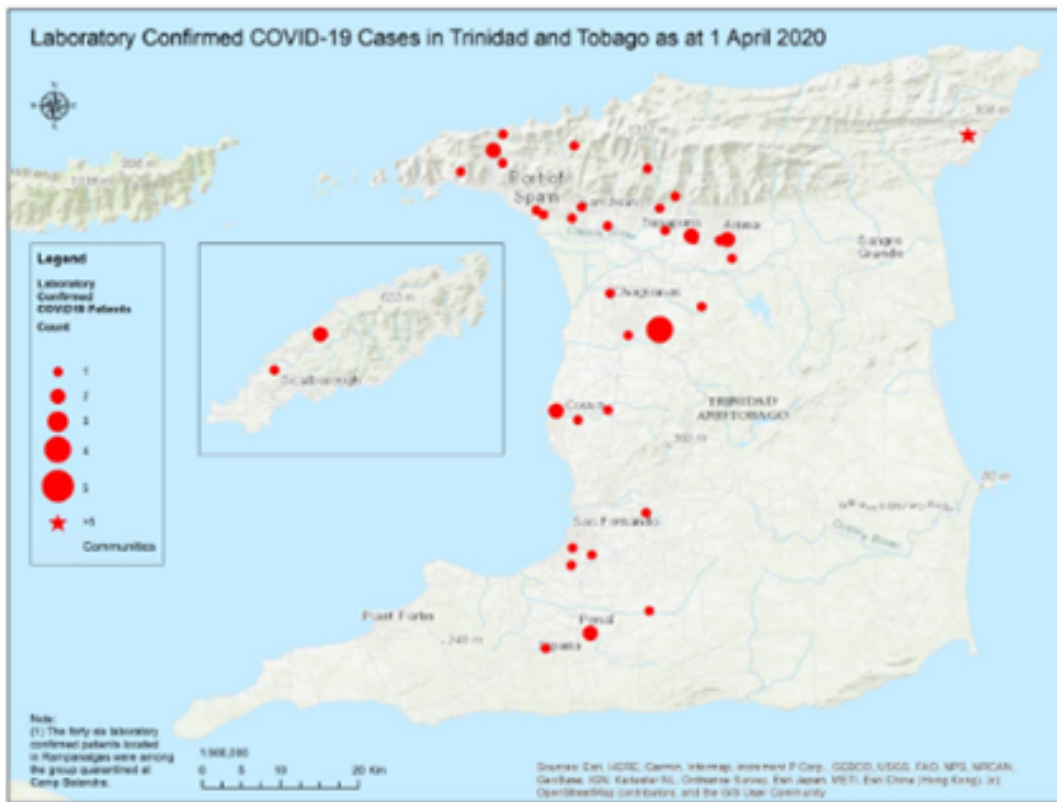
*Krystin Henry*

As of the morning of April 16, 2020, there have been 1283 samples submitted to CARPHA for testing, 114 positive cases, 86 active cases, 8 deaths, and 20 recoveries.

Of the total number of positive cases, 49 of these positive cases came from the group of nationals who recently returned from a cruise:

- 49 positive cases from the group of 68 nationals who returned from the cruise together
- 3 positive cases from the group of nationals who returned from the same cruise separately from the other 68 nationals.

Source: <http://www.news.gov.tt/content/trinidad-and-tobago-covid-19-novel-coronavirus-update-109#.XpiavP1Ki00>



# CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) AWARENESS AT BATCE

*Alyssa Metivier*

In light of the Coronavirus outbreak, we at BATCE have made it our duty to educate our students, teachers and parents on necessary personal measures to protect themselves and others. The Government of Trinidad and Tobago requested that large gatherings should be avoided. At BATCE, school assemblies were conducted via the Public Address System to avoid large gatherings. Chapel Services organized for the various year groups were cancelled. Several flyers and notices were created and displayed throughout the schools and on the school's social media platforms (instagram and facebook) to help share the important health information, faster. The following were displayed:

**COVID-19**  
**YOUR ROLE: YOUR RESPONSIBILITY**

WASH YOUR HANDS

infographics

1 WATER AND SOAP  
2 PALM TO PALM  
3 BETWEEN FINGERS  
4 FOCUS ON THUMBS  
5 BACK OF HANDS  
6 FOCUS ON WRISTS

**PROPER COUGHING/ SNEEZING ETIQUETTE**

**DO NOT** cover your mouth/nose with your hands. This allows for the easy transfer of germs.

**DO** cough/sneeze into the crook of your arm to prevent the spread of germs.

**PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES**  
PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT THERE WILL BE :

- 1 CONTINUED SANITATION OF THE SCHOOL AND BATHROOMS
- 2 NO GENERAL SCHOOL ASSEMBLIES UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE
- 3 CONTINUED EDUCATION OF STAFF AND STUDENTS IN SCHOOL AND VIA OUR SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS
- 4 CANCELLATION OF FORM ONE PARENT DAY
- 5 LIMITED USE OF SCHOOL CAFETERIA SPACE – SPACE TO BE USED ONLY FOR PURCHASES.

THESE MEASURE WERE IMPLEMENTED IN RESPONSE TO THE OUTBREAK OF COVID-19 (CORONAVIRUS DISEASE)

BAHSE

Disease Prevention

Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least **20 seconds**

SOURCE: WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

Disease Prevention

Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.

SOURCE: WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

Disease Prevention

Maintain physical distancing

SOURCE: WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

# **COLLABORATIVE WORK- A VIRUS-FREE SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT AT BATCE**

BATCE continues to work collaboratively with our stakeholder, TRINCOL (Trincity College Limited) to ensure that a virus-free school environment is maintained. Immediately upon the national alerts of the Corona Virus, discussions and meetings were held with TRINCOL'S management team on the maintenance of a virus-free environment. A review of the procedures for staff and students who felt unwell was done and an area was designated for personnel removal should this situation occur. This was integrated with the procedures to be adopted for communicable diseases.

Guidelines issued by UNICEF in their document Key Messages and Actions for COVID19 Prevention and Control in Schools, March 2020 was shared with TRINCOL Management, Senior Managers and all other members of staff. The guidelines provided simple, systematic and effective actions and ways of keeping our school's virus-free and the roles and responsibilities of all in the upkeep of a virus-free environment.

Guidelines issued by the Ministries of Health and National Securities were also adhered to. There was heightened vigilance to movements of persons on the compound as well as for visitors: security was maintained 24/7: an increased frequency in the sanitizing of the compound, inclusive of classrooms, offices and all other internal and external spaces: notices and increased supplies for hand-washing and sanitation and there was restrictive access to the compound by staff and visitors.

Congratulations must be extended to the TRINCOL Management team for their on-going contribution to maintaining a clean, safe and healthy environment conducive to teaching, learning, and work. It is noteworthy that many of the health and safety practices simply had to be reinforced.



# Dos and Don'ts When discussing COVID-19 Virus

**DO** - talk about the new coronavirus disease (COVID-19)

**DON'T** - attach locations or ethnicity to the disease, this is not a "Wuhan Virus", "Chinese Virus" or "Asian Virus". The official name for the disease was deliberately chosen to avoid stigmatisation - the "co" stands for Corona, "vi" for virus and "d" for disease, 19 is because the disease emerged in 2019.

**DO** - talk about "people who have COVID-19"

**DON'T** - refer to people with the disease as "COVID-19 cases" or "victims"

**DO** - talk about people "acquiring" or "contracting" COVID-19

**DON'T** - talk about people "transmitting COVID-19" "infecting others" or "spreading the virus" as it implies intentional transmission and assigns blame.

**DO** - speak accurately about the risk from COVID-19, based on scientific data and latest official health advice.

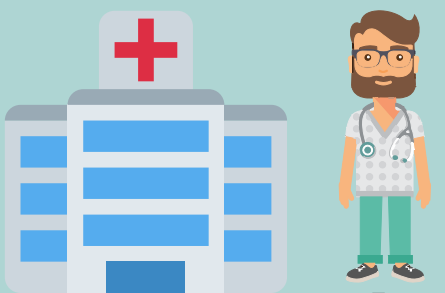
**DON'T** - repeat or share unconfirmed rumours, and avoid using hyperbolic language designed to generate fear like "plague", "apocalypse" etc.

**DO** - talk positively and emphasize the effectiveness of prevention and treatment measures. For most people this is a disease they can overcome.

**DON'T** - emphasize or dwell on the negative, or messages of threat.

## DO YOUR PART

Governments, citizens, media, key influencers and communities have an important role to play in preventing and stopping stigma surrounding people from China and Asia in general. We all need to be intentional and thoughtful when communicating on social media and other communication platforms, showing supportive behaviors around the new coronavirus disease (COVID-19).



- CIFRC, UNICEF, WHO

Renelle.S- ESD Junior Program Officer



# STOP THE STIGMA

## WHAT IS SOCIAL STIGMA?

Social stigma in the context of health is the negative association between a person or group of people who share certain characteristics and a specific disease. In an outbreak, this may mean people are labelled, stereotyped, discriminated against or experience loss of status because of a perceived link with a disease. Such treatment can negatively affect those with the disease, as well as their caregivers, family, friends and communities. People who don't have the disease but share other characteristics with this group may also suffer from stigma. The current COVID-19 outbreak has provoked social stigma and discriminatory behaviours against people of certain ethnic backgrounds as well as anyone perceived to have been in contact with the virus.

## What is the impact ?

Stigma can undermine social cohesion and prompt possible social isolation of groups, which might contribute to a situation where the virus is more, not less, likely to spread. This can result in more severe health problems and difficulties controlling a disease outbreak.

### Stigma can:

- Drive people to hide the illness to avoid discrimination.
- Prevent people from seeking health care immediately
- Discourage people from adopting healthy behaviours

## How to address social stigma?

Evidence clearly shows that stigma and fear around communicable diseases hamper the response. What works is building trust in reliable health services and advice, showing empathy with those affected, understanding the disease itself and adopting effective, practical measures so people can help keep themselves and their loved ones safe.



- CIFRC, UNICEF,WHO

Renelle.S- ESD Junior Program Officer



# REDUCING THE SPREAD OF COVID-19- THE USE OF FACE MASKS.

The discussion on the use of face mask to reduce the spread of the corona virus has become part of global and national discussions with many persons in Trinidad and Tobago calling for the use of face masks by persons. Previously as part of the public health restrictions, it was stated that y if you were healthy there was no need for you to wear a mask. However, as researchers and scientists probe deeper into finding out more about this virus, the Center for Disease and Control Prevention (CDC) advised that all persons should wear mask to protect themselves as there were persons moving around who were asymptomatic.

At the news conference of the Ministry of Health, Trinidad and Tobago held on April 06, 2020, the Minister of Health advised that all members of the public must wear face masks when going out in the public to reduce the spread of COVID-19. At BATCE we care about the well-being of our employees and stakeholders and as such to maintain BATCE as a virus-free school environment, all persons entering the compound must wear face masks. These face masks must comply with the guidelines issued by the Ministry of Health, in that they must securely cover the mouth and nose areas and be secured in place. The mask must be worn for the entire duration of being in public, inclusive of BATCE compound..



Current statistics from the Ministry of Health as of April 15, indicate that there are 114 positive cases of COVID-19 with 8 deaths;.We urge all to follow the guidelines on the use of facemask and all other health guidelines issued to reduce the spread of the corona virus.

In addition what was stated before, the World Health Organization (WHO) provided the following guidelines on the wearing of face masks:

1) If you are healthy, you only need to wear a mask if you are taking care of a person with suspected 2019-nCoV infection.

2) Wear a mask if you are coughing or sneezing.

3) Masks are effective only when used in combination with frequent hand-cleaning with alcohol-based hand rub or soap and water.

4) If you wear a mask, then you must know how to use it and dispose of it properly.

5) Before putting on a mask, clean hands with alcohol-based hand rub or soap and water.

6) Cover mouth and nose with mask and make sure there are no gaps between your face and the mask.

7) Avoid touching the mask while using it; if you do, clean your hands with alcohol-based hand rub or soap and water.

8) Replace the mask with a new one as soon as it is damp and do not re-use single-use masks.

9) To remove the mask: remove it from behind (do not touch the front of mask); discard immediately in a closed bin; clean hands with alcohol-based hand rub or soap and water



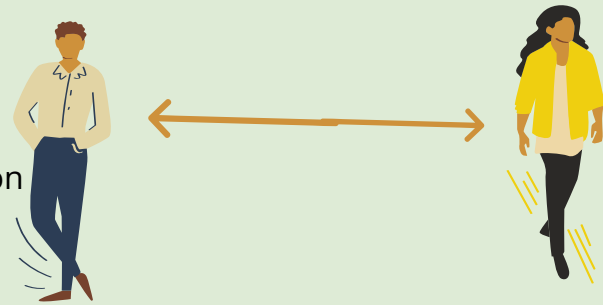
# What is social and physical distancing?

## Social Distancing

While it may be disappointing to hear that so many sports events, cruises, festivals and other gatherings are being cancelled, there is a public health reason for these measures. These cancellations help stop or slow down the spread of disease allowing the health care system to more readily care for patients over time. Cancelling events that are likely to draw crowds is an example of social and physical distancing. Social distancing is deliberately increasing the physical space between people to avoid spreading illness. Staying at least six feet away from other people lessens your chances of catching COVID-19. Wear a cloth face covering where social distancing can't be practiced, especially in areas of significant community-based transmission.

Other examples of social and physical distancing that allow you to avoid larger crowds or crowded spaces are:

- Working from home instead of at the office
- Closing schools or switching to online classes
- Visiting loved ones by electronic devices instead of in person
- Cancelling or postponing conferences and large meetings



## What is self-quarantine?

People who have been exposed to the new coronavirus and who are at risk for coming down with COVID-19 might practice self-quarantine. Health experts recommend that self-quarantine lasts 14 days. Two weeks provide enough time for them to know whether or not they will become ill and be contagious to other people. You might be asked to practice self-quarantine if you have recently returned from traveling to a part of the country or the world where COVID-19 is spreading rapidly, or if you have knowingly been exposed to an infected person.

Self-quarantine involves:

- Using standard hygiene and washing hands frequently
- Not sharing things like towels and utensils
- Staying at home
- Not having visitors
- Staying at least 6 feet away from other people in your household



Once your quarantine period has ended, if you do not have symptoms, follow your doctor's instructions on how to return to your normal routine.

## What is isolation?

For people who are confirmed to have COVID-19, isolation is appropriate. Isolation is a health care term that means keeping people who are infected with a contagious illness away from those who are not infected. Isolation can take place at home or at a hospital or care facility. Special personal protective equipment will be used to care for these patients in health care settings.

SOURCE: JOHN HOPKINS MEDICINE

[HTTPS://WWW.HOPKINSMEDICINE.ORG/HEALTH/CONDITIONS-AND-DISEASES/CORONAVIRUS/CORONAVIRUS-SOCIAL-](https://www.hopkinsmedicine.org/health/conditions-and-diseases/coronavirus/coronavirus-social-)