

# New measures against the spread of coronavirus in the Netherlands

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New measures against the spread of the coronavirus will apply in the Netherlands from Thursday 12 March 2020. Prime Minister Rutte and Minister Bruins explained the measures (based on advice from RIVM) during a press meeting.

The measures are:

- Everyone in the Netherlands: stay at home with complaints of a cold, cough, sore throat or fever. Avoid social contact. Do not call your doctor until symptoms are severe.
- Meetings with more than 100 people are canceled throughout the Netherlands. This also applies to public locations such as museums, concert halls, theaters, sports clubs and sports competitions.
- People throughout the Netherlands are called upon to work from home as much as possible or to spread working hours.
- Vulnerable persons: (elderly and persons with reduced resistance) avoid large groups and public transport. In general, people are urged to limit visits to vulnerable people.
- For healthcare personnel and personnel in vital processes: a lot is required of you. Do not stay home until you have symptoms and a fever. If necessary, consult with your employer. And also: do not travel abroad.
- Universities of applied sciences and universities are requested to offer education online instead of large-scale lecture meetings.
- Schools in primary, secondary and secondary vocational education and childcare simply remain open: there are few infections there and the environment is less international. Moreover, children and young people do not form the group with the highest risks. In addition, the social consequences of closing these schools are said to be significant and little contributes to limiting the spread. Children who have a cold should stay at home.

**Finally, the measures apply to the whole of the Netherlands until 31 March. This also applies to North Brabant.**