



27 February 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

Novel Coronavirus

I write to update and assure you about the precautions we are taking against the Novel Coronavirus outbreak. In response to UK medical officers raising the risk level from low to moderate we continue to monitor the situation on a daily basis and are taking a dynamic approach to this complex and changing picture. This has been guided by the latest advice from following the advice of Public Health England (PHE) to ensure the health of our whole community, including students and staff.

I am mindful that there will be a number of parents who are concerned about the health of their children and would like to assure you that we are assessing any potential risks on a daily basis. The advice we are following is regularly updated and I would encourage you to follow these updates on the [PHE website](#) which offers sensible and unbiased information to anyone who may be worried. Based on the current evidence from World Health Organisation [WHO](#) and PHE there is no immediate cause for concern, however we have taken the following precautions this week:

- Restricted entry to the school from pupils and visitors from an affected region until the outbreak is contained.
- All staff and students have been briefed on the signs and symptoms of the Novel Coronavirus.
- Pupils are being reminded about the importance of good hygiene including regular washing of hands and the use of hand sanitizer.

The latest update from the NHS can be found [here. https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/](https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/)

We ask that any student or family who has travelled to, or had direct contact with anyone from, a Novel Coronavirus affected area, informs us immediately.

Please note:

- Any pupil, parent or visitor who has travelled to or been in direct contact with anyone from a Novel Coronavirus affected area will be asked to remain at home (in accordance with PHE guidance) to prevent the potential spread of the virus.

The wellbeing of our community is of the utmost importance at this time, especially those from affected areas, and I am sure you will join me in supporting them during this period.

We will continue to keep you informed as the situation and official advice changes. We will be updating our website as and when new information is received.

Should you wish to discuss any of the above, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

John Coggin

Deputy Headteacher

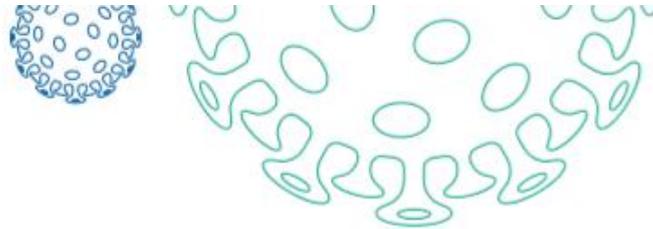


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Public Health
England



Advice on the coronavirus for places of education

How serious is the coronavirus?

- it can cause flu-like symptoms, including fever, cough & difficulty breathing
- the infection is not serious for most people, including children
- there is currently no vaccine
- most people get better with enough rest, water to drink and medicine for pain

How likely are you to catch the virus?

- you can only catch it if you have been close to a person who has the virus
- the chance of being in contact with the virus is currently low in the UK
- if you have travelled to areas where many people are infected, your chance of catching the virus is higher, i.e. China and any affected areas

How can you stop coronaviruses spreading?

If you need to cough or sneeze



Catch it with a tissue



Bin it



Kill it by washing your hands with soap & water or hand sanitiser



After breaks & sport activities



Before cooking & eating



SCHOOL ETC.
On arrival at any childcare or educational setting



After using the toilet



Before leaving home



Try not to touch your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands



Do not share items that come into contact with your mouth such as cups & bottles



If unwell do not share items such as bedding, dishes, pencils & towels



Stop germs spreading with our e-Bug resources on hand and respiratory hygiene lesson plans for KS1, 2 and 3: campaignresources.phe.gov.uk/schools

What should you do if you feel unwell?

Keep away from others and stay at home to stop the infection spreading. Avoid public transport if you think you have symptoms of coronavirus. If you become unwell at a place of education, tell a member of staff and let them know if you have travelled to any other countries in the last 14 days.

If your staff member or parent thinks you have symptoms of coronavirus, they should call **NHS 111** for advice. Follow the UK Government advice for childcare or educational settings [gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19). Parents can visit [NHS.UK](https://www.nhs.uk) to find out more information. Teachers and support staff should follow the UK Government advice.

Staff, students and pupils who have returned from Wuhan and Hubei Province in China should self isolate, and NOT attend education or work for 14 days. See [NHS.UK](https://www.nhs.uk) for advice on coronavirus.

If there is an emergency, call 999 immediately



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