

Dear Parents,

Re: Coronavirus concerns

You're likely aware of the outbreak of novel coronavirus in China and the subsequent confirmed cases in the UK. At our schools, we take the health and safety of our pupils and staff very seriously, so we're sharing [guidance from Public Health England](#) on steps you should be taking.

There's currently no cause for concern at the school, but we'll keep you informed about any developments and ensure we're keeping the school clean to prevent the spread of any virus.

Prevent the spread of infection

Make sure you and your children follow these general principles to prevent spreading any respiratory virus:

- Wash your hands often – with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, or an alcohol-based sanitiser if soap and water aren't available
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick
- If you feel unwell, stay at home and don't attend work or school
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in a bin
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces in the home
- If you're worried about your symptoms, please call NHS 111 – don't go directly to your GP or other healthcare environment

If you or your children have returned from anywhere in Hubei province in past 14 days

If you or your children are currently well:

- Stay indoors and avoid contact with other people as you would with flu viruses
- Call NHS 111 to inform them of your recent travel to the area
- Your other family members don't need to take any precautions or make any changes to their own activities

If you become unwell:

- Please call NHS 111 immediately in order for you to be assessed by an appropriate specialist in hospital, as quickly as possible
- Follow the [home isolation advice sheet](#)

If you or your children have returned from a specified country in last 14 days

The specified countries are:

- China (other than Hubei)
- Hong Kong
- Japan
- Macau

- Malaysia
- Singapore
- South Korea
- Taiwan
- Thailand

If you or your children are well:

- You don't need to avoid contact with other people
- Your other family members don't need to take any precautions or make any changes to their own activities

If you become unwell:

- Stay indoors and avoid contact with other people as you would with other flu viruses
- Follow the [home isolation advice sheet](#)
- Call NHS 111 immediately in order for you to be assessed by an appropriate specialist in hospital, as quickly as possible

Symptoms to look out for

If you've returned from the specified countries or Hubei, look out for the following symptoms:

- Cough
- Difficulty in breathing
- Fever (a temperature of 38 degrees C or higher)

If you have any of these symptoms:

- If it's an emergency, call 999 and tell them which country you have returned from in the past 14 days
- If you're unwell, but it's not an emergency, call NHS 111 and tell them which country you have returned from in the past 14 days

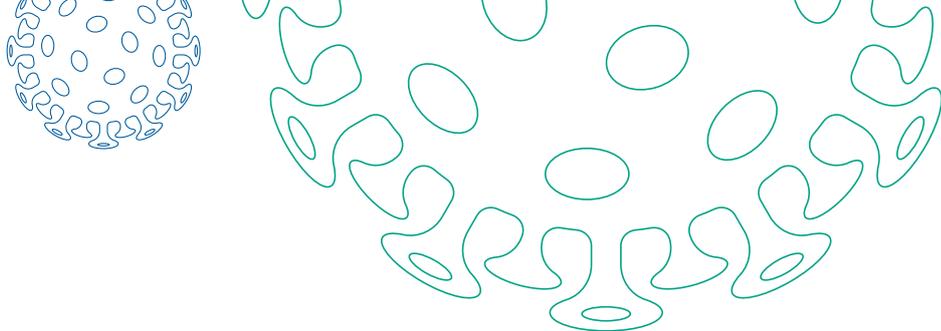
While you wait for further advice:

- Avoid contact with others
- Stay at home – don't go to work or school
- Don't travel while sick
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when coughing or sneezing, throwing tissues in the bin
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds (or an alcohol-based sanitiser if soap and water aren't available)

If you or your child have any further concerns or questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school office and we shall endeavour to help.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs J V Hopkins
Executive Head teacher



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

You should wash 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. Parents can visit 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 Iran, specific lockdown areas in northern Italy, special care zones in South Korea or Hubei province China (returned in the past 14 days) should self isolate, and NOT attend education or work for 14 days.

See NHS.UK for advice on coronavirus.

If there is an emergency, call 999 immediately

