

3rd March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

We wanted to write to you following a couple of queries from parents regarding school trips and the current coronavirus risk.

We are continually receiving updates from the Department for Education about the current risk and follow any guidance given. The most recent update from 28th February focuses on the risk posed by children or adults who have travelled from specified countries or regions within the last 14 days, and on what to do if a child or adult in school either has a confirmed case of the virus or comes into contact with someone who has. The link to this guidance is below.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19>

There is also a poster, which is attached to this letter, to give guidance to schools on how to stop the virus spreading.

As you will see, there is currently nothing in the guidance to advise schools to make any changes to educational visits or to avoid using public transport. Should there be any further updates, we will of course adapt the risk assessment accordingly and, if necessary, make appropriate adjustments for the trip. We will also ensure that all classes take tissues and hand sanitizer to use at regular intervals through the day.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call the school office or speak to me in the playground.

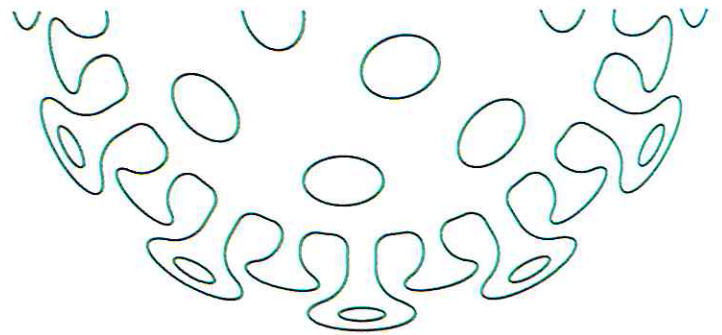
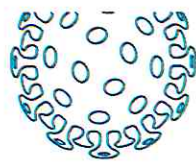
Many thanks,



Donna Callaghan
Associate Headteacher



Harriet Joseph
Associate Headteacher



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



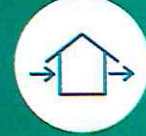
Before cooking & eating



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

