

Dear Parent/Carer(s),

2nd March 2020

Parents will be aware of concerns following news of a number of confirmed coronavirus patients in Europe. As a school, we have been acting on advice from Public Health England and the Department of Education, and will continue to act on their updates.

I wanted to update you that, as a school, we have been taking pre-emptive measures throughout the term, in respect of organising more regular deep cleaning and more frequent disinfection of high-contact areas, as is recommended to reduce the spread of seasonal illness or infection.

We have also supported families with information in regards to the specific lockdown areas of travel. For further information, please see: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-specified-countries-and-areas/covid-19-specified-countries-and-areas-with-implications-for-returning-travellers-or-visitors-arriving-in-the-uk>

This week, we have been discussing with the children the importance of basic hygiene practices, such as regularly washing hands and always sneezing into a tissue, to stem the spread of viruses. This is part of a UK wide campaign, which can be supported at home. This includes:

- Washing your hands often - with soap and water, or use alcohol sanitiser if handwashing facilities are not available. This is particularly important after taking public transport.
- Covering your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throwing the tissue in a bin.
- Use an alcohol-based hand sanitiser that contains at least 60% alcohol, if soap and water are not available.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.

This information is to provide the children with good advice on hygiene routines, not to cause alarm. However, if you are worried about any health symptoms or those of a child the advice is to call NHS 111. Do not go directly to your GP or other healthcare environment. Further advice from the NHS can be accessed here. <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

We continue to monitor NHS advice closely, and are acting under advice from Public Health England. We are advised that the risk to students and staff remains very low.

Thank you for your co-operation and continued support.

Yours sincerely,



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