

March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

There is currently a lot of information in the news about schools and the Covid-19 (Coronavirus) infection. Tutors will be sharing the attached Public Health England advice with students, reinforcing the message about preventing the spread of infections through good personal hygiene. We do not want to alarm students but reassure them and continue to stress the importance of washing hands thoroughly and sneezing/coughing into a tissue to avoid spreading germs and viruses. It would also be prudent to ensure students have their own pack of tissues to bring to school and ensure that they practise good hand-washing hygiene. Additional steps may be to purchase a bottle of hand sanitiser that students can keep in their bags for their own personal use.

The academy will continue to follow the advice given by the Department for Education, Department of Health and Social Care and Public Health England. The key message from the government is that should individuals present with flu-like symptoms they should ring NHS Direct (111) to seek advice.

The list of worldwide locations for the virus is changing frequently and it would be a good idea to check the government website if you are concerned. <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> However, currently the advice is that if you have returned from the following specific areas since 19th February, you should call NHS 111 and stay indoors and avoid contact with other people, even if you do not have symptoms:

- Iran • Specific lockdown areas in Northern Italy • Special care Zones in South Korea • Hubei province (China)

If you have returned from the following areas since 19th February and develop symptoms, however mild, you should stay indoors at home and avoid contact with other people immediately and call NHS 111. You do not need to follow this advice if you have no symptoms.

- Northern Italy (anywhere north of Pisa, Florence and Rimini) • Vietnam • Cambodia • Laos • Myanmar • Malaysia
- Japan • Taiwan • Thailand

As you are aware, new information and guidance is constantly being provided, therefore please visit the following link for the latest updates <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>


Thank you for your support

Yours sincerely



Stuart Turnbull
Principal

Broad Way, High Heath, Pelsall, Walsall. WS4 1BW | **Principal:** Stuart Turnbull
Telephone: 01922 685777 | **Email:** postbox@scacademy.co.uk | **Website:** www.scacademy.co.uk

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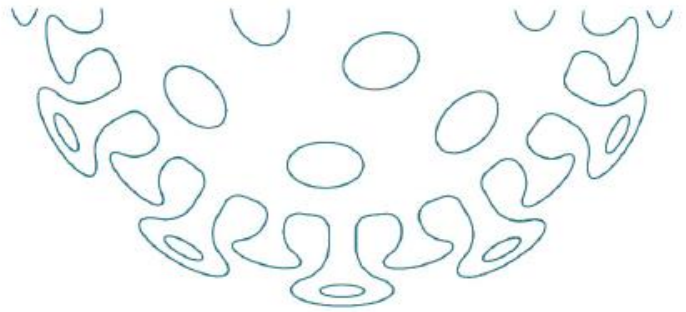
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Advice on the coronavirus for places of education

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](https://www.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 Wuhan and Hubei Province in China 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

