

ST. LUKE'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL



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Dear Parents and Carers,

Covid-19 (Coronavirus) Precautions

We take the health and safety of our students and staff very seriously therefore in light of the recent outbreak of Coronavirus, and the subsequent confirmed cases in the UK, we are sharing the guidance and advice published by Public Health England for people who have been out of the country recently, or in direct contact with a confirmed case.

There is currently no cause for concern at the school and we will obviously keep you informed about any developments. As you can appreciate this is a constantly developing situation and government advice may change at any time.

If you or your children have returned from a category 1 country or area in past 14 days:

These countries include:

- Wuhan city and Hubei province, China
- Iran
- Daegu or Cheongdo, South Korea (Only if you've returned on or after 19 February 2020)
- Any Italian town under containment measures

You should contact NHS 111 for advice, and follow this advice from Public Health England, which they advise should be followed even if the symptoms are minor:

- Self-isolate for 14 days after leaving the country or area
- If you become unwell, call NHS 111 immediately for an assessment (or 999 if you require emergency medical attention)

If you or your children have returned from a category 2 country or area in the last 14 days:

These countries include:

- Cambodia
- China (other than Wuhan city or Hubei province)
- Hong Kong
- Italy: north
- Japan
- Laos
- Macau
- Malaysia
- Myanmar
- Singapore
- South Korea (other than Daegu or Cheongdo)
- Taiwan
- Thailand
- Vietnam
- Republic of Korea

You should follow this advice from Public Health England if you are fit and 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 (after returning from a category 2 country) PHE advice is:

- Stay indoors and avoid contact with other people as you would with other flu
- Call NHS 111 immediately for an assessment (or 999 if you require emergency medical attention)

If you have not visited any of the affected countries, but have had direct contact with a confirmed case of Covid-19:

- You should call NHS 111 for advice

Symptoms to look out for and actions to take:

If you've returned from any of the category 1 or 2 areas or countries, or have had direct contact with a confirmed case of Covid-19, look out for the following symptoms:

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

According to other official guidance, 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)

Preventing the spread of infection:

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

- Regularly wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, or use an alcohol based sanitiser if soap and water aren't available. It is particularly important to wash your hands after being outside, being in public areas handling money/payment card machines, before touching your face, after coughing/sneezing/blowing your nose and before eating
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue (or into the fold of your arm if you do not have a tissue) then throw the tissue in a bin and wash or sanitise your hands
- Regularly 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

A new helpline has been launched to answer questions about COVID-19 related to education. Staff, parents and young people can contact the helpline as follows;

- Phone: 0800 046 8687 Opening hours: 8am to 6pm (Monday to Friday)
- Email: DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk
- Website: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-information-for-the-public> (this site is updated at 2pm each day)

We request that you do not send hand sanitising gel in to school with your children. Each classroom has its own supply that the children can use and we are guiding children on effective handwashing using NHS advice <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthy-body/best-way-to-wash-your-hands/>

If you have any further concerns or questions please contact the school.

Yours sincerely,

S Hardaker

Mr S Hardaker
Headteacher



SCHOOL
MEMBER

