



20<sup>th</sup> February 2020

## Coronavirus (COVID-19) update and advice

Dear parents and carers,

There have now been nine patients test positive for coronavirus in England and the UK Chief medical officer has raised the risk to the public from low to moderate. However, the risk to individuals is still low.

You should not be unduly worried about the possibility of your child catching the coronavirus. There is no reason why your child should not attend school.

The advice from government at the moment is that we can all do everything we can to reduce the spread of any viruses by promoting basic hygiene practices, such as regularly washing hands and always sneezing into tissues. We would encourage you to send your child to school with a pack of tissues and to encourage them to wash their hands with soap regularly throughout the day. We have tissues available to pupils in classrooms and all our washrooms have soap dispensers.

The NHS advises us all to follow these guidelines:

DO:

- cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze
- put used tissues in the bin immediately
- wash your hands with soap and water often – use hand sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available
- try to avoid close contact with people who are unwell

DON'T:

- do not touch your eyes, nose or mouth if your hands are not clean

The risk is of course higher in countries with higher infection rates namely China, Hong Kong, Japan, Macau, Malaysia, Korea, Singapore, Taiwan and Thailand. If you have recently visited or are planning on visiting these countries it is important that you follow the advice for visiting these countries supplied by the foreign office <https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice>.

Kind regards,

Rebecca Curtis  
Principal