



Priory Junior School

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Headteacher: Tracy Keefe B.Ed (Hons) NPQH

11th March 2020

Dear Parents / Carers,

Re: Coronavirus concerns – update

Following my previous letter sent to you at the beginning of this half-term, you will be aware that we are facing an ever-developing situation in relation to the outbreak of novel coronavirus in the UK.

At Priory Junior School, we are continuing to follow the [guidance](#) from Public Health England on steps that we should all be taking.

There continues to be no cause for concern at the school, but we'll keep you informed about any developments and ensure we're keeping the school clean to prevent the spread of any virus.

We are also increasing some of the measures shared in the last letter to you:

Preventing the spread of infection

- › Children and staff are being asked to wash their hands often – with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, or an alcohol-based sanitiser if soap and water aren't available. We have upgraded the soap dispensers in all the children's toilets, and children and staff are being asked to wash their hands on arrival at school, before and after each change of setting (eg break, lunch, PE) and before going home.
- › All visitors to the school are being asked to wash their hands on arrival
- › If your child feels unwell, please keep them at home and let us know
- › We have increased cleaning of the bannisters and the door handles
- › We are adjusting the taps so that they can stay on longer too
- › We monitor the temperature of the water from the taps on a regular basis in school, making sure that it doesn't fall below minimum levels
- › Children are being encouraged to cover any coughs or sneezes with a tissue, then throw the tissue in a bin
- › If you're worried about your child's or your own symptoms, please call NHS 111 – don't go directly to your GP or other healthcare environment

If your child is exhibiting symptoms in school:

We will take them to a room away from other children, and call you to come and collect. Once collected, this room will then be cleaned fully.



Planning Ahead

Of course, none of us knows what is going to happen, but we are currently making contingency plans to be able to provide learning activities for your children in any events where they might need to self-isolate, or we are advised to close the school. We will share these with you in due course, if needed.

The guidance currently relates to people who have returned from overseas and is as follows:

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

This includes:

- › Wuhan city and Hubei province, China
- › Iran
- › Daegu or Cheongdo (Republic of Korea)
- › Italy**

** (i) Travellers who returned from areas of Northern Italy that were under containment measures ([see map](#)) between 19 February and 8 March 2020 should self-isolate for 14 days. If they develop symptoms they should contact NHS111. (ii) Travellers who returned from the rest of Italy before 9 March 2020 do not need to undertake any special measures, but if they develop symptoms they should self-isolate and call NHS 111.

Contact NHS 111 for advice, and:

- › Self-isolate for 14 days after leaving the country or area (see the [home isolation advice sheet](#) for help with this).
- › If you become unwell, call NHS 111 immediately for an assessment (or 999 if you require emergency medical attention) – see below for the symptoms to look out for

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

This includes:

- › Cambodia
- › China*
- › Hong Kong
- › Japan
- › Laos
- › Macau
- › Malaysia
- › Myanmar
- › Singapore
- › Republic of Korea*
- › Taiwan

› Thailand



› Vietnam

*Except areas in Category 1

If you or your children are 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 (see below for a list of symptoms):

- › Stay indoors and avoid contact with other people as you would with other flu viruses (see the [home isolation advice sheet](#) for help with this).
- › Call NHS 111 immediately for an assessment (or 999 if you require emergency medical attention).

Symptoms to look out for

If you've returned from any of the category 1 or 2 areas or countries, 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)

If you or your child have any further concerns or questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,



Tracy Keefe
Headteacher

