

Dear Parents

**Re: Coronavirus/COVID-19**

Assalamu'Alaikum

I am sure that you are all aware Coronavirus/COVID-19 is on the rise. There is no suggestion by the government that the threat of a Coronavirus outbreak is raised in the UK, but there are some measures that we can all take to help reduce the spread of all respiratory infections including COVID-19.

We will be briefing the students in assemblies this week, reinforcing our normal guidance regarding how they can help to reduce the spread of illness through some sensible precautionary procedures, including:

- The use of disposable tissues.
- The regular washing of hands, using soap and water, and the use of sanitizer gel. (We ask that you send your son/daughter to school with their own personal sanitizer gel).
- The avoidance of touching eyes, nose or mouth with unwashed hands.
- The avoidance of close contact with people who are unwell.

I have attached the flyer that has been provided by Public Health England that gives up-to-date information sent out to all schools in the UK. The flyer provides information on how to stop coronavirus from spreading, and also what to do if you feel unwell.

You may have heard that a small number of schools have closed due to suspected cases of students and staff that have attended countries at risk. We are following the advice given to us by Public Health England and will keep you fully informed should the need to close any of the three schools arise.

May I assure you that we are taking the risk very seriously and all students/staff who have been on holiday in the last 14 days will be asked to inform the school of the area that they have visited before they are allowed to return.

The schools have been provided with a list of countries that have serious outbreaks, and we will be following the advice given regarding self-isolation etc. if required.

There are 2 categories of risk and each category has been assigned relevant guidance.

CATEGORY 1 COUNTRIES	CATEGORY 2 COUNTRIES
Wuhan city and Hubei Province Iran, Daegu or Cheongdo Any Italian town under containment measures	Cambodia, China, Hong Kong, Italy (North), Japan, Laos, Macau, Malaysia, Myanmar Republic of Korea, Singapore, Taiwan Thailand, Vietnam

If you have travelled to any of the countries in Category 1 then you are expected to self-isolate even if you have no symptoms and are asked to contact NHS 111 to inform of travel. If you have travelled to any of the countries in Category 2 then you do not need to undertake any special measures unless you develop any symptoms in which case you should self-isolate and inform NHS 111.

Whilst it is not our intention to scare anyone, we thought it was important to let you know that our schools are taking the outbreak very seriously and we will continue to inform you if there are any changes to the current plan.

Further advice can be found on the government website using the link on the attached flyer and also by visiting NHS.UK.

Please note that as part of the continued support that the school provides the Holiday request form will be changed slightly requiring you to provide the destination of the holiday you intend to take. This will help us to identify any students who may be at risk before they return to school. This information will be useful for this virus and any other potential virus outbreaks in the future.

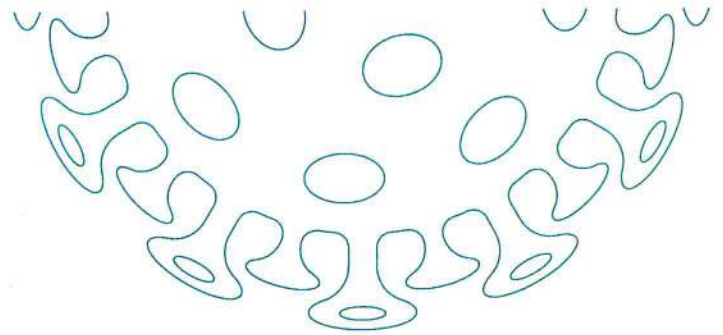
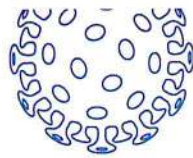
Thank you

Wassalam



Mrs H Stear

Health and Safety Lead for Manchester Islamic Educational Trust.



# 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



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](https://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

