

Thursday 13th February 2020

Dear parent/carer,

Coronavirus – advice for schools

As you will be aware, there are a small number of cases of the novel coronavirus in the UK. As a school we are in regular communication with the local authority and Public Health England (PHE) to ensure that we are doing everything we can as a community to look after ourselves and each other. We do not have any cases of novel coronavirus in the Academy and are writing to share good practice only.

The current advice from PHE is to ensure that everyone in our community follows good hygiene practice. As we are in the middle of cold and flu season there are many other viruses and germs around, so following good hygiene practice will benefit us all generally. Coughing and sneezing should be into tissues that are promptly disposed of in bins. Hands should be regularly washed with soap and water or using an alcohol hand rub, even if hands are visibly clean. Please encourage your child to carry tissues with them if they have a cold, and consider purchasing some hand sanitiser for them. PHE does not recommend that surgical face masks are effective at preventing the spread of viruses, and these may not be worn by students in the Academy. At the moment we would encourage students who are a bit 'under the weather' with mild winter cold symptoms to continue to attend school, as we always do.

If you have travelled from Wuhan or Hubei Province to the UK in the last 14 days, PHE requires you to stay indoors and avoid contact with other people as you would with the flu, and to call NHS 111 to inform them of your recent travel to the area. This advice applies even if you do not have any symptoms of the virus. If this is the case for anyone in your wider family please notify the Academy immediately.

If you have travelled from mainland China, Thailand, Japan, Republic of Korea, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Singapore, Malaysia or Macau in the last 14 days, please follow the guidance from the UK Chief Medical officers if you begin to feel unwell. Please notify the Academy if this is the case. The most updated advice can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-information-for-the-public>.

If you plan to travel to any of the areas named above over half term, please also notify the Academy in advance.

Thank you in advance for following the above steps.

Yours faithfully,



Mr M Williams
Principal