

Littledean Church of England Primary School

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Loving one another, building each other up

11th March 2020

Dear Parents,

Coronavirus (Covid-19)

Coronavirus continues to dominate the news. We are continually receiving updates from both the Department of Education and Gloucestershire County Council and will advise you if anything changes. Current advice is:

'We would like to remind colleagues in schools that no school should close in response to a suspected (or confirmed) COVID-19 case unless directed to do so by Public Health England (PHE). The risk assessments carried out by PHE are very thorough and their team will also communicate with all people who need to self-isolate or be tested following a case being confirmed.'

The symptoms of coronavirus are:

- a cough
- a high temperature
- shortness of breath

But these symptoms do not necessarily mean you have the illness. The symptoms are similar to other illnesses that are much more common, such as cold and flu.

How coronavirus is spread:

Because it's a new illness, we do not know exactly how coronavirus spreads from person to person. Similar viruses are spread in cough droplets. It's very unlikely it can be spread through things like packages or food.

Do I need to avoid public places?

Most people can continue to go to work, school and other public places. You only need to stay away from public places (self-isolate) if advised to by the 111 online coronavirus service or a medical professional.

Check if you need medical help:

NHS 111 has an online coronavirus service that can tell you if you need medical help and advise you what to do. Use this service if:

- you think you might have coronavirus
- in the last 14 days you've been to a country or area with a high risk of coronavirus
- you've been in close contact with someone with coronavirus

We are advised that you do not go to a GP surgery, pharmacy or hospital. Call 111 if you need to speak to someone.

The Department for Education (DfE) has launched a coronavirus (COVID-19) advice service for the education sector, including staff, parents, carers and young people. The relevant details are detailed below:

Department for Education Coronavirus helpline

Phone: 0800 046 8687

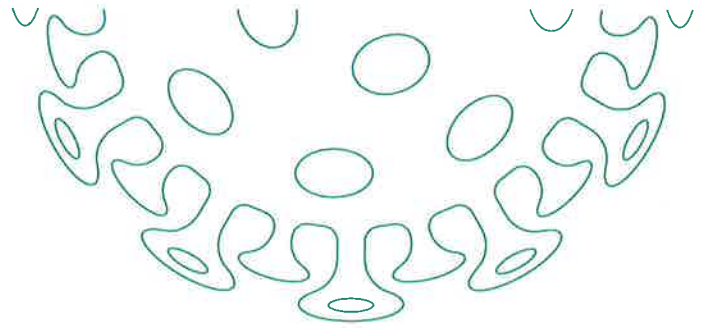
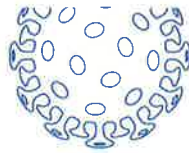
Email: DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk

Opening hours: 8am to 6pm (Monday to Friday)

NHS website: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

PHE Public Info <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-information-for-the-public>

Head Teacher: Mrs Hayley McGoldrick



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

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 Iran, specific lockdown areas in northern Italy, special care zones in South Korea or Hubei province China (returned in the past 14 days) 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