

5<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

**Update on Academy response to the Coronavirus (Covid-19)**

We are issuing this update in line with government advice about the spread of the Coronavirus. At this stage we have no reason to believe that anyone at Cathedral Academy is directly affected by the virus. However, given the current media attention and following some enquiries we felt it appropriate to send some information to parents.

Public Health England are issuing daily advice and guidance for schools and we are working closely to follow this. The current advice for schools who are not directly affected is to be aware of the situation and actively promote the need to practice good hygiene habits of washing hands regularly and 'Catch it, Bin it, Kill it' when coughing or sneezing (see attached page). In our academy we have a number of hand sanitiser dispensers for staff and student use. We encourage students to use these and wash their hands regularly.

Currently there are no plans to change any of the arrangements for school attendance, upcoming school trips or summer exams.

We will however continue to monitor the advice from Public Health, the Health Secretary and the Foreign & Commonwealth Office in order to maintain appropriate safeguarding arrangements and will keep you updated as appropriate.

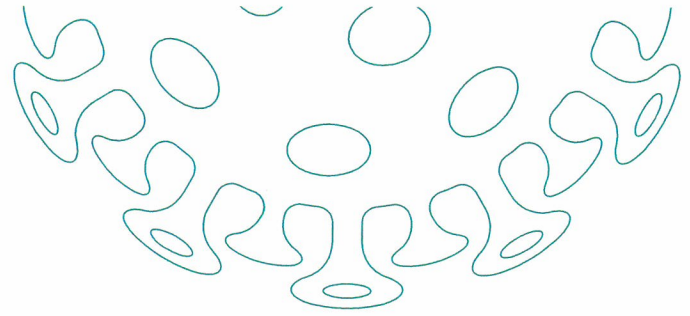
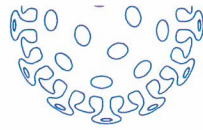
Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Marsh', followed by a small period.

Rob Marsh  
Principal



Public Health  
England



# 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



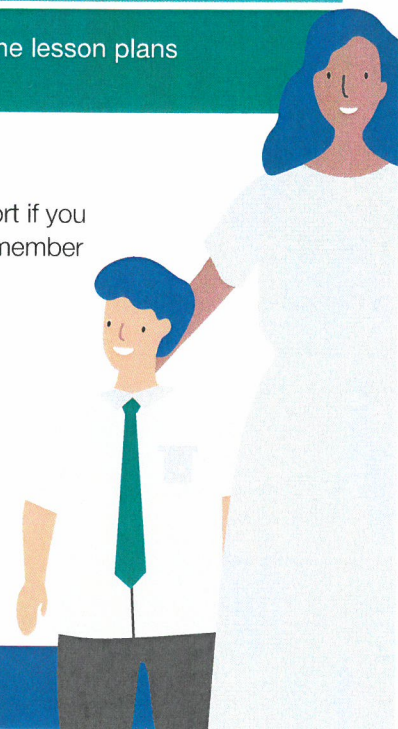
Stop germs spreading with our e-Bug resources on hand and respiratory hygiene lesson plans for KS1, 2 and 3: [campaignresources.phe.gov.uk/schools](https://campaignresources.phe.gov.uk/schools)

## 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 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