

Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)

Dear Parents & Carers,

We share the concerns of – and express our full solidarity with – staff and families who are worried about the health and wellbeing of relatives and friends in China and affected communities elsewhere in the world. We will continue to assess the public health risk to our own community, and will take all reasonable precautions to ensure the safety of our children, families and staff. In the meantime, we urge everyone to remain respectful and supportive of those members of our community who, at what is already a time of heightened anxiety, may feel subjected to unfounded scrutiny.

In the light of the Public Health England advice on the prevention of the spread of the coronavirus, the school has reviewed its hygiene and cleaning processes.

There are a number of actions that we would ask parents to support us with:

- Please remind your children of how to protect themselves and others against the spread of viruses (illustrated below). Although this is hard for us all, they should try not to touch their eyes, nose or mouth, especially with unwashed hands;
- Ensure that your children wash and dry their hands prior to leaving for school each morning;
- If appropriate, older children should carry their own supply of tissues and an anti-viral hand sanitiser;
- **Your children should be kept at home if they have any cold or flu-like symptoms, such as a fever, a cough or shortness of breath. Seek the advice of the NHS by calling 111. Do not attend your GP or other healthcare provider unless instructed to do so.**

How can you stop coronaviruses spreading?					
If you need to cough or sneeze			You should wash hands with soap & water or hand sanitiser		
					
Catch it with a tissue	Bin it	Kill it by washing your hands with soap & water or hand sanitiser	After breaks & sport activities	Before cooking & eating	SCHOOL ETC. 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			

At school, we will ensure that:

- Your children are taught and reminded about the strategies illustrated above;
- Children, staff and visitors are reminded to wash and dry or sanitise their hands when arriving at the school;
- Children wash their hands prior to eating;
- Tissues will be available to catch coughs and sneezes, and the appropriate disposal of tissues;
- Children are monitored for cold/flu-like symptoms to ensure that those who need to be recovering at home are doing so;
- Our cleaning processes are under constant review to ensure that we do all we can to prevent the spread of viruses;
- We will review whether it is appropriate for swimming, forest school, trips and other events go ahead - please check with your child's teacher.

I would like to thank you for your support in these matters. We will continue to keep you updated.

With thanks,

The Learning Quarter Partnership
Winton and Hugh Myddelton Primary Schools

