



BOURNMOOR PRIMARY SCHOOL
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Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Coronavirus

I am writing to update you about the school's current position regarding Coronavirus. We take the health and safety and wellbeing of our pupils and staff very seriously, and, as such, we want to reassure you that we are following the guidance from Public Health England and the Department for Education (DfE).

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19>

The risk is currently low in County Durham, however to minimise the spread of any infection in school we are: encouraging regular hand washing, using antibacterial cleaning products, focusing on deep cleaning within our school, working with the children to ensure high standard of cleanliness and providing regular reminders.

As you may be aware, we organise trips and visits for pupils and we will follow advice given regarding whether these can go ahead over the next few weeks. We have been advised that swimming lessons continue to be provided through Durham County and we will keep you updated regarding this situation.

If circumstances arise where the school must close, we will inform you in our usual way via text so please ensure that we have your up to date mobile number.

We are currently making plans for supporting your child's education should a closure become necessary and will keep you informed on this.

Prevent the spread of infection

Make sure you and your children follow these general principles to prevent spreading any respiratory virus:

- Wash your hands often – with soap and water and scrub for at least 20 seconds, or an alcohol-based sanitiser if soap and water aren't available
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands
- Avoid close contact with people who are unwell
- If you feel unwell, stay at home and don't attend work or school
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then place the tissue in a bin and then wash your hands
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces in the home
- If you're worried about your symptoms, please call NHS 111 – don't go directly to your GP or other healthcare environment

The most recent UK government advice is that anyone with a new continuous cough and a high temperature should self-isolate for seven days.

If you or your children have returned from abroad in the last 14 days, please follow the link below for advice about category 1 and 2 countries.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-specified-countries-and-areas/covid-19-specified-countries-and-areas-with-implications-for-returning-travellers-or-visitors-arriving-in-the-uk>

Symptoms to look out for

If you've returned from any of the category 1 or 2 areas or countries, look out for the following symptoms:

Cough

Difficulty in breathing

Fever (a temperature of 38 degrees C or higher)

➤ Stay indoors and avoid contact with other people as you would with other flu viruses. Please see the link below for information about self-isolation.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-self-isolation-for-patients-undergoing-testing/advice-sheet-home-isolation>

➤ Call NHS 111 immediately for an assessment (or 999 if you require emergency medical attention)

As I mentioned, we are following the guidance from Public Health England and the DfE, but this is being updated regularly in response to the changing situation. We will monitor and follow the national guidance as it is updated and would urge you to do the same.

We understand that this is a time of concern but be assured that we are following the guidelines we are given. We would respectfully ask that parents contact school directly for information to ensure that we can give accurate feedback. Thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely

L A Snowdon

Mrs Laura Snowdon (Headteacher)