

Headteacher: Mrs C Oldham

February 2020

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**INSPIRE, ASPIRE, ACHIEVE**

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Dear Parents/Carers,

**Re: Coronavirus concerns**

You're likely aware of the outbreak of novel coronavirus in China and the subsequent confirmed cases in the UK. At Cogenhoe Primary, we take the health and safety of our pupils and staff very seriously, so we're sharing [guidance from Public Health England](#) on steps you should be taking.

There is currently no cause for concern at the school, but we will keep you informed of any developments and ensure that we are keeping the school clean, to prevent the spread of any virus.

**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 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 sick

If you feel unwell, stay at home and don't attend work or school

Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in a bin

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

**If you or your children have returned from anywhere in Hubei province in past 14 days**

If you or your children are currently well:

Stay indoors and avoid contact with other people as you would with flu viruses

Call NHS 111 to inform them of your recent travel to the area

Your other family members don't need to take any precautions or make any changes to their own activities

If you become unwell:

Please call NHS 111 immediately in order for you to be assessed by an appropriate specialist in hospital, as quickly as possible

## **If you or your children have returned from a specified country in last 14 days**

The specified countries are:

China (other than Hubei), Hong Kong, Japan, Macau, Malaysia, Singapore, South Korea, Taiwan and Thailand

If you or your children are well:

You don't need to avoid contact with other people

Your other family members don't need to take any precautions or make any changes to their own activities

If you become unwell:

Stay indoors and avoid contact with other people as you would with other flu viruses

Follow the home isolation advice.

Call NHS 111 immediately in order for you to be assessed by an appropriate specialist in hospital, as quickly as possible

## **Symptoms to look out for**

If you've returned from the specified countries or Hubei, look out for the following symptoms:

Cough

Difficulty in breathing

Fever (a temperature of 38 degrees C or higher)

If you have any of these symptoms:

If it's an emergency, call 999 and tell them which country you have returned from in the past 14 days

If you're unwell, but it's not an emergency, call NHS 111 and tell them which country you have returned from in the past 14 days

While you wait for further advice:

Avoid contact with others

Stay at home – don't go to work or school

Don't travel while sick

Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when coughing or sneezing, throwing tissues in the bin

Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds (or an alcohol-based sanitiser if soap and water aren't available)

If you or your child have any further concerns or questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school Office.

Yours sincerely,

**Mrs Oldham**  
**Headteacher**

