



Woodside High School

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Dear Parent/Carer,

This letter outlines the most up to date advice that we have received on coronavirus from our healthcare partners. I hope that you find it useful. I also attach a Public Health England flyer, which outlines best preventative practice. The advice given relies on all of us taking personal responsibility to do the right thing to protect others and ourselves.

A coronavirus is a type of virus. As a group, coronaviruses are common across the world - the common cold is a type of coronavirus. Typical symptoms of coronavirus include fever and a cough that may progress to a severe pneumonia causing shortness of breath and breathing difficulties. Generally, coronavirus can cause more severe symptoms in people with weakened immune systems, older people, and those with long-term conditions like diabetes, cancer and chronic lung disease. Wuhan novel coronavirus is a new strain of coronavirus first identified in Wuhan City, China. The current evidence is that most cases appear to be mild. Those who have died in Wuhan appear to have had pre-existing health conditions.

As of 24th February, a total of 6,536 people have been tested in the UK, of which 6,527 were confirmed negative and 9 positive.

The government's approach is guided by the advice of the Chief Medical Officer and can be found via the link below.

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-information-for-the-public#advice-for-travellers>

If a person has returned from the specific areas listed below since February 19, they should call NHS 111 and stay indoors and avoid contact with other people. This includes not sending your child to school, even if they do not have symptoms:

- Iran
- Specific lockdown areas in Northern Italy as designated by the Government of Italy
- Special care zones in South Korea as designated by the Government of the Republic of South Korea
- Hubei province of China (returned in the past 14 days)

If you or your child have recently returned from these areas and develop symptoms of cough or fever or shortness of breath, however mild, you should stay indoors at home and avoid contact with other people immediately and call NHS 111. You do not need to follow this advice if you have no symptoms.

- Northern Italy (not including, Pisa, Florence and Rimini)
- Vietnam
- China
- Thailand
- Japan
- Republic of Korea
- Hong Kong
- Cambodia
- Laos
- Myanmar
- Taiwan
- Singapore
- Malaysia
- Macau

This is a potentially difficult, evolving situation. The school will follow national guidance and we will pass on further information as and when necessary.

Yours sincerely

Gerry Robinson
Headteacher

Head Teacher: Ms Gerry Robinson

