



Hadleigh Infants and Nursery School Academy

Bilton Road
Hadleigh
Benfleet
Essex SS7 2HQ

Tel: 01702 557979
Fax: 01702 556586
Email :admin@hadleigh-inf.essex.sch.uk
www.hadleigh-inf.essex.sch.uk

Wednesday 26th February 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

As you will all be aware, the Coronavirus is becoming an ever growing potential threat to the UK. Although the number of cases within the UK is still very small, the number of cases recorded globally is increasing every day. As a school, our main priority is the safety of the children, families and staff. With this in mind we will be following the daily advice provided to us by, the Department of Education and Public Health England.

The Department of Education and Public Health England state:

“A coronavirus is a type of virus. As a group, coronaviruses are common across the world. COVID-19 is a new strain of coronavirus first identified in Wuhan City, China in January 2020.

The incubation period of COVID-19 is between 2 and 14 days. This means that if a person remains well 14 days after contact with someone with confirmed coronavirus, it is unlikely that they have been infected.

The following symptoms may develop in the 14 days after exposure to someone who has COVID-19 infection:

- ***cough***
- ***difficulty in breathing***
- ***fever***

Generally, these infections 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. There is no evidence that children are more affected than other age groups – very few cases have been reported in children.”

Within school, we have ensured that the school has a large stock of the items required to help prevent the spread of the infection. We will also be completing work with the children linked to good hygiene and how to reduce the risk of any germs spreading. This work will be completed in a fun and child friendly way using resources that the school normally use for covering this topic and the resources provided by the government (https://e-bug.eu/junior_pack_ks1).

Following the advice set out from The Department of Education and Public Health England, if your child is feeling unwell and showing the symptoms described on page 1 of this letter they should stay at home and should not attend school. If you are concerned about the health of your child and the symptoms they are showing the advice is to call 111 for further assistance. As with current practice, if any child shows signs of becoming unwell in school their parents will be contacted. The school has procedures in place if there was to ever be a suspected or confirmed case of Coronavirus but ultimately I would follow the advice that would then be provided with Public Health England at the time of any incident.

The latest advice from Public Health England is that if you have returned from these specific areas since 19 February the guidance is to call NHS 111 stay indoors and avoid contact with other people **even if you 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 or Hubei province (returned in the past 14 days).

If you have returned from the following areas since 19 February and **develop symptoms** (cough, fever or shortness of breath), however mild, you should stay indoors at home and avoid contact with other people immediately and call NHS 111: Northern Italy (defined by a line above, and not including, Pisa, Florence and Rimini), Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, China, Thailand, Japan, Republic of Korea, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Singapore, Malaysia or Macau.

The school expects children and parents to follow this advice – given that this list is changing rapidly, we would ask parents to let us know immediately if any child (or person they live with) has travelled to any of the affected areas. Please make us aware if your child is having to self-isolate or has developed symptoms and we will discuss the next steps with you in terms of school attendance.

I appreciate that this could be a worrying time for parents but I would like to reassure you that we do have procedures in place and will continue to keep parents aware of any changes in the advice the school is following. All updates will be placed on the school's website and can be accessed through the following link - https://hadleigh-infant.eschools.co.uk/web/coronavirus_updates/451923.

If you have any concerns over this matter, please do not hesitate to contact the school directly.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. S. Proctor