

Yelvertoft Primary School

School Lane, Yelvertoft, Northampton, NN6 6LH

Telephone: 01788 822 498 Fax 01788 822012 Head Teacher: Mrs Melanie Servent

Chair of Governors: Mr David Noble

Website: www.yelvertoftprimary.com

Thursday 27th February 2020

Dear Parents & Carers

I am writing to both reassure you and inform you about the steps we are taking in relation to the Coronavirus to keep our pupils safe. We continue to monitor the situation regularly and are taking a dynamic approach to this complex and changing picture, following the advice of Public Health England (PHE) to ensure the health of our whole community, including pupils and staff.

It should be remembered that most respiratory illnesses are likely to be the common cold or, in extreme cases, influenza, for which existing health guidance should continue to be followed.

The advice we are following is regularly updated and I would encourage you to follow these updates on the PHE website which offers sensible and unbiased information to anyone who may be worried. Based on the current evidence from WHO and PHE there is no immediate cause for concern, however we have taken the following precautions:

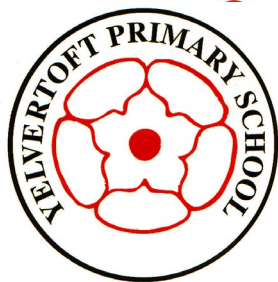
Any staff or pupils who display symptoms should be excluded from the school until they have consulted a clinician (i.e. by calling NHS 111 or GP) This advice would be the same for seasonal influenza. Guidance in respect of regular handwashing and the "Catch It, Bin It, Kill It" message should be reinforced.

So that we reinforce the hygiene message all the class teachers will be talking about good hygiene with children in the classroom tomorrow. There are hand gel stations in every classroom which support good hygiene. We do have posters in wash rooms promoting effective hand washing and Catch It Bin it posters around the school.

Be assured we will not be specifically mentioning the term Coronavirus to our children but we will be mentioning the importance of not spreading any germs if we are poorly.

In addition to the above steps I wanted to advise you that we are following up to date government guidance in relation to travel and holidays outside the UK. Could I please ask that you read this and consider any future travel plans as it may impact on your child's ability to come back to school on your return.

The Government advice is updated regularly but at the time this letter was sent out it is currently as follows:



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Category 1 Countries

Travellers should self-isolate, even if you have no symptoms and call NHS 111 to inform of recent travel.

This means your child can not come into school for 14 days. Furthermore, if you or they, have been in contact with anyone who has visited a category 1 country, your child would need to self-isolate for 14 days.

Category 1 countries are: Regions of China, Iran, regions of South Korea and containment areas in Italy.

The latest information can be found here on Category 1 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>

Category 2 Countries

- Children can continue to attend our school
- If your child develops any symptoms you will be asked to collect them immediately, seek medical advice and they are recommended to self-isolate
- Your child will not be able to return to school until we have seen medical advice that assures us that they are safe to do so.

The latest information can be found here on Category 2 countries:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-specified-countries-and-areas>

Thank you for your support in protecting the health and well-being of our school community.

Yours sincerely

Mel Servent