

# ST VINCENT'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Dear Parents,

The government is closely monitoring the spread of coronavirus and is taking action at home and abroad. The overall risk of coronavirus to the UK remains moderate. However, we understand that people may be concerned where there are children, pupils or staff returning from or visiting China or other affected areas. Public Health England and the Foreign Office have issued the following advice for anyone travelling to China:

<https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice/china>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-and-avian-flu-advice-for-travel-to-china>

Latest information and advice can also be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

Public Health England say you should not be unduly worried about the possibility of your children catching coronavirus. There is no reason why your children should not continue to attend their early years or school setting as normal. We recognise that some families or children may be planning to travel to China during the forthcoming holiday period. If so, please refer to the FCO's latest travel advice via the link above.

A UK wide campaign has been launched to provide clear advice on how to slow the spread of coronavirus. Please help to support the campaign, which promotes basic hygiene practices, such as regularly washing hands and always sneezing into a tissue, to stem the spread of viruses.

Further advice has been issued this week for schools and educational settings. Please be aware that this is a constantly evolving situation and we will continue to share any new advice at the earliest opportunity.

Advice for returning travellers is as follows:

1) If you have returned from the following areas since 19 February, stay indoors and avoid contact with other people, and call NHS 111 to inform them of your recent travel **even if you do not have symptoms**:

- **China** - Hubei province (returned in the past 14 days)
- **Iran**
- **Italy** - Specific lockdown areas in Northern Italy as designated by the Italian Government. A [map](#) has been published to help detail the relevant areas.
  - In the **Lombardy** Region: Bertonico; Casalpusterlengo; Castelgerundo; Castiglione D'Adda; Codogno; Fombio; Maleo; San Fiorano; Somaglia; and Terranova dei Passerini
  - In the **Veneto** Region: Vo' Euganeo
- **South Korea** - Daegu or Cheongdo



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2) If you have returned from the following areas since 19 February, you should stay indoors at home and avoid contact with other people immediately, and call NHS 111 **only if you develop symptoms**:

- Northern Italy (see [map](#))
- Vietnam
- Cambodia
- Laos
- Myanmar

3) If you have returned to the UK from any of the following areas **in the last 14 days** you should stay indoors at home and avoid contact with other people immediately, and call NHS 111 **only if you develop symptoms**:

- Other parts of China outside Hubei province
- Thailand
- Japan
- Republic of Korea
- Hong Kong
- Taiwan
- Singapore
- Malaysia
- Macau

Further guidance for educational settings has been published at the following links and will be updated as soon as possible with the above advice and any further changes:

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

Information for the public can also be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-information-for-the-public>





## Advice on the coronavirus for places of education

### How serious is the coronavirus?

- it can cause flu-like symptoms, including fever, cough & difficulty breathing
- the infection is not serious for most people, including children
- there is currently no vaccine
- most people get better with enough rest, water to drink and medicine for pain

### How likely are you to catch the virus?

- you can only catch it if you have been close to a person who has the virus
- the chance of being in contact with the virus is currently low in the UK
- if you have travelled to areas where many people are infected, your chance of catching the virus is higher, i.e. China and any affected areas

### How can you stop coronaviruses spreading?

#### If you need to cough or sneeze



**Catch it**  
with a tissue



**Bin it**



**Kill it**  
by washing  
your hands with  
soap & water or  
hand sanitiser

#### You should wash hands with soap & water or hand sanitiser



**After breaks  
& sport  
activities**



**Before  
cooking  
& eating**



**SCHOOL  
ETC.**  
On arrival at  
any childcare  
or educational  
setting



**After using  
the toilet**



**Before  
leaving  
home**



Try not to touch your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands



Do not share items that come into contact with your mouth such as cups & bottles



If unwell do not share items such as bedding, dishes, pencils & towels



Stop germs spreading with our e-Bug resources on hand and respiratory hygiene lesson plans for KS1, 2 and 3: [campaignresources.phe.gov.uk/schools](http://campaignresources.phe.gov.uk/schools)

### What should you do if you feel unwell?

Keep away from others and stay at home to stop the infection spreading. Avoid public transport if you think you have symptoms of coronavirus. If you become unwell at a place of education, tell a member of staff and let them know if you have travelled to any other countries in the last 14 days.

If your staff member or parent thinks you have symptoms of coronavirus, they should call **NHS 111** for advice. Follow the UK Government advice for childcare or educational settings [gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19](http://gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19). Parents can visit [NHS.UK](http://NHS.UK) to find out more information. Teachers and support staff should follow the UK Government advice.

Staff, students and pupils who have returned from Wuhan and Hubei Province in China should self isolate, and NOT attend education or work for 14 days. See [NHS.UK](http://NHS.UK) for advice on coronavirus.

**If there is an emergency, call 999 immediately**



We will update parents should any new information be issued.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Harrop