

*Our vision: Creative learning, personal achievement and happiness.
Enabling everyone to flourish and to live life in all its fullness.*

Mrs L Batey - Headteacher



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Dear Parent / Guardian,

I am writing to all parents with the latest Coronavirus Guidance. The new guidance is particularly relevant as families may well have travelled during the February break. We are carefully monitoring the guidance from Government, DfE, Cumbria County Council and Public Health England. I hope to clarify our view of what is an appropriate course of action. I emphasise that there have been no reported cases amongst any students or staff at Shankhill CofE Primary.

As we are following Government and Public Health England advice and can share the following with you:

Risk level -- Based on the World Health Organization's declaration that this is a public health emergency of international concern, the UK Chief Medical Officers have raised the risk to the public from low to moderate. This permits the government to plan for all eventualities. **The risk to individuals remains low.**

Attached is a Public Health England information leaflet.

Much of this guidance is the same as for the types of colds and flu we have in the UK each year. It explains how we can prevent spreading viruses and what we should do if we feel unwell. Coincidentally, this fits in well with Class 1 science learning which is focusing on how to stay clean and healthy by washing our hands properly. Today they shared photos of a science experiment they did of handling bread with washed and unwashed hands. Everyone could see the 'germs' clearly on the bread.

Below is a link to the latest government advice for the public on coronavirus.

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

There is also advice for educational settings: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19>.

We draw your attention to the following sections:

9. What to do if a pupil, student or staff member has travelled from elsewhere in China (outside Wuhan and Hubei Province) or Hong Kong, Japan, Macau, Malaysia, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Taiwan or Thailand in the last 14 days.

We are adding the XXXXX School Pila Ski trip to Italy to this list.

If they are currently well:

- they are advised to self-isolate only if they develop symptoms
- they can continue to attend work or education
- they do not need to avoid contact with other people
- their family do not need to take any precautions or make any changes to their own activities
- testing people with no symptoms for COVID-19 is currently not recommended

If they become unwell:

- they should stay indoors and avoid contact with other people as they would with other flu viruses (see this [home isolation advice sheet](#)).

"This school continues to be good... maintains good quality education... pupils gain a sense of achievement from their lessons... they display excellent attitudes towards their learning... behaviour in lessons and around school is impeccable... Staff are welcoming and inclusive... strong Christian values are promoted well... (results) well above that of other schools nationally" Ofsted 2019

Staff "strive to ensure that pupils are happy, while making education fun and enjoyable." Parent View 2018



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- they (or a family member, colleague or member of staff) should call NHS 111 immediately for them to be assessed by an appropriate specialist, as quickly as possible
- they should stay at home and should not attend work or education

10. What to do if pupils, students or staff return from travel anywhere else in the world within the last 14 days (This includes the school ski trip to Pila, Italy).

- Currently there are minimal cases outside the risk areas and therefore the likelihood of an individual coming into contact with a confirmed case is low.
- There is no need to advise any of these pupils, student or staff to avoid normal activities or educational settings unless they have had contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19.
- If individuals are aware that they have had close contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19 they should contact NHS 111 for further advice.

5. What to do if a case of COVID-19 (pupil, student or staff) is suspected in your childcare or education setting:

- If anyone has been in contact with a suspected case in a childcare or educational setting, no restrictions or special control measures are required while laboratory test results for COVID-19 are awaited.
- There is no need to close the setting or send other learners or staff home.
- **As a precautionary measure, the NHS are currently testing a very large number of people who have travelled back from affected countries, the vast majority of whom test negative.**
- Therefore, until the outcome of test results is known there is no action that staff members need to take.

To our knowledge, no families have travelled from the destinations in the list above. However, we ask you to follow the guidance and urge you to regularly check the government website for updates if the situation changes. I also ask that you inform the school if you have travelled from the areas above, you have called 111 and you have arranged for your son or daughter to stay indoors.

I hope you find this guidance useful.

Yours sincerely



Lynnsey Batey
Head Teacher