

13th March, 2020
Ref: 0916



UPDATE ON THE CORONAVIRUS

Dear Parent / Carer,

As I am sure you are aware from the media, the whole country at present is rising to the challenge of the outbreak of the coronavirus. This is an evolving situation and we are working closely with DDAT, our academy trust, in a proactive way based on the information coming from the government through Public Health England and the Department for Education.

Over the past few days, we have received a number of queries asking whether school is closing. **At this current time, our school remains open and our normal attendance procedures are expected**, unless the Department for Education and public Health England advise us otherwise.

There is currently no cause for concern at our school but we will keep you informed about any developments should they happen in the future.

At St Chad's, we take the health and safety of our children and staff very seriously, so we are sharing guidance from Public Health England on steps you should be taking.

Prevent the spread of infection

Make sure you and your children follow these general principles to prevent spreading any respiratory virus:

- Wash your hands often – with soap and water for at least 20 seconds
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick
- If you feel unwell, stay at home and don't attend work or school
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in a bin
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces in the home
- If you're worried about your symptoms, please call NHS 111 – don't go directly to your GP or other healthcare environment

The Department for Education coronavirus helpline is available to answer questions about the coronavirus relating to education and can be contacted Monday to Friday (8am-6pm), on 0800 046 8687.

We continue to follow the daily guidance updates from the Department for Education and have added a link to the 'news page' on our website. Posters are also displayed in our Reception foyer and are also available to view on our website.

We have Risk Assessments in place in the event that we have to close school. **It is essential that we have your current and correct emergency contact details on our school system.**

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ST. CHAD'S CofE NURSERY & INFANT SCHOOL
Gordon Road, Derby DE23 6WR
Tele: 01332 345997
E-mail: admin@stchads.derby.sch.uk
Headteacher: Ms. K Leach

DDAT
Derby Diocesan Academy Trust



If you have recently changed your telephone number(s), please ensure that you inform Miss Richardson in our main school office.


Once again, please can I stress that at this current time our school remains open and are normal attendance procedures are expected, unless the Department for Education and Public Health England direct us otherwise.

Thank you, as always, for your ongoing support.

Yours faithfully,

K. Leach

Ms. K Leach
Headteacher



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
- 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, pens/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


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](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19). Parents can visit [NHS.UK](https://www.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 Iran, specific lockdown areas in northern Italy, special care zones in South Korea or Hubei province China (returned in the past 14 days) should self isolate, and NOT attend education or work for 14 days. See [NHS.UK](https://www.nhs.uk) for advice on coronavirus.

If there is an emergency, call 999 immediately



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