

Simon A Wood – Executive Headteacher

Tuesday 17th March 2020

COVID-19 (Coronavirus) – Update 2 – UPDATED Tues 17th March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

Following last week's Government announcements, and in-line with Public Health England guidance, we shared the following, which either already had been or was enacted from last Friday.

Although there are no mandated school closures and/or lock-down procedures invoked, yet, we wish to be as fully prepared as possible, and to support you as families by sharing information as quickly and as succinctly as possible.

At Copperfield we had already actioned all the following to reduce the risk of spreading this virus:

- Pupils and staff wash hands on arrival to school
- Pupils and staff wash hands frequently throughout the day
- Pupils and staff have been briefed to cough/sneeze safely – tissue or sleeve and elbow!
- Visitors sanitise and wash hands on entry
- Any/all unknown and new visitors and new pupils are questioned about any underlying symptoms or recent travel – we have posters on display
- Increased cleaning and disinfecting of surfaces, handles, switches, rails, tablets, laptops, mobiles and toilets throughout the day

From Friday 13th, we implemented the next stage of measures to delay the spread of this virus, these are:

- Postponing (until after July 2020) or cancelling all trips
- Not using any public transport for school
- Not attending any sporting events, festivals and/or concerts with large numbers of pupils (more than 100 indoors/500 outdoors)
- Staff members not attending large meetings or training at any other venues
- Continuing to closely monitor/support any pupils, staff, parents and carers with any known underlying conditions

Preparations are also underway for a mandatory school closure in the future if necessary; these preparations include:

- Preparing and updating our continuation of learning plan – this will ensure all children continue with learning if asked to stay at home
- Preparing to support some of our most vulnerable children and families

Actions you as parents/carers MUST take:

- If you or your child have a fever (temperature above 37.5) or cough, **please self-isolate for 14 days**
- If possible, ensure that grandparents, or those most at risk or with a known vulnerability from the virus, reduce/stop visits to the school
- Let us know if any of your contact details have changed - **please update the school office immediately**

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What this means right now to us all - as a learning community:

1. **Parent/Carer Consultations planned for today and tomorrow will NOT take place – we will reschedule when current events have settled.**
2. **Year 1 pupils (and accompanying parents/carers) will NOT visit London this Friday.**
We are planning a virtual walk/tour of London using Google Earth and other online resources to support our learning.
Refunds will be given to anyone who has already paid – this will take us a few days to process, so please be patient
3. **We will NOT be participating in the Handball, Easter 7s, TAG Rugby, Quicksticks or Netball competitions or tournaments. We will hold alternative competitions and mini-tournaments in school.**
4. **Our ‘Music for a Spring Afternoon’ concerts will NOT take place with an audience – they will take place as a full costumed performance and we will attempt to ‘live-stream’; and we shall also record to share with you via Facebook and Twitter**
5. **We will NOT be participating in the St. George’s Day Parade**
6. **We will NOT be participating in the Vaisakhi Parade**
7. **We will make a decision about Year 3 Swimming as soon as I have had confirmation of their already heightened procedures**

Most importantly, for now, Copperfield **remains open** and our childrens’ learning continues uninterrupted. Staff teams have been asked to be as creative as they possibly can to ensure that we maximise all opportunities for learning and to show our values of communication, team-spirit and leadership.

Our best wishes are sent to those schools, and families, where confirmed cases are present – we wish them all speedy recovery and return to ‘typicality’.

I will close by stating that there are **NO** suspected or confirmed cases at Copperfield, nor have there been any to date.

As ever, if you have any questions, please ask.

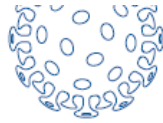
Kind regards,

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Public Health
England



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

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

