



Dear Parent/Carer,

We would like to update you following the latest national advice relating to the illness COVID-19 caused by the virus called coronavirus. Parents and carers are naturally worried about the implications for their children and families. We would like to reassure you that our primary concern is to implement any necessary measures to protect children, staff and visitors in our school. We are in constant communication with our cluster feeder schools, Public Health Wales and the Local Authority regarding the health and safety of pupils in our schools.

Proactive steps taken so far to prevent infection

- All classes have had 'lessons' on handwashing
- Assemblies have been delivered to each year group regarding handwashing
- Posters are being put up in every classroom and corridor highlighting the importance of taking the appropriate steps to minimise the risks associated with virus
- In conjunction with our cluster feeder schools, we will continue to update our risk assessments focusing on COVID-19 based on the latest advice being circulated to schools
- School staff are alert to the risk of infection and are taking measures to help keep children healthy. Currently, these measures include encouraging children to wash their hands regularly and to cough or sneeze into tissues, disposing of them in a bin thereafter. It would be extremely useful if you could reinforce the key themes at home – you can find links here <https://gov.wales/coronavirus-covid-19-educational-settings-guidance>
- All toilets in school have soap dispensers and hand dryers for use and we have ensured we have a good supply in stock. These are checked each day to ensure they are full.
- We are encouraging all pupils and staff to wash hands:
 - On arrival at school
 - after using the toilet
 - after breaks and sporting activities
 - before food preparation
 - before eating any food, including snacks
 - before leaving school
- We are also taking additional precautions with our cleaning routines to ensure high traffic surfaces and objects are disinfected regularly.

School Closure

As we continue to follow UK, Welsh Government and Public Health Wales advice, the Council has advised us that all schools should open as normal. The situation is being kept under continuous review and we will advise you immediately if something changes. We are now formulating plans to mitigate the impact of school closure on the continuity of learning for children. Should the school close, we have plans to ensure your child will have access to a range of learning

activities that you can use at home with your child. This work will continue behind the scenes as the situation across Swansea and Wales remains under review.

Self-isolation

The latest information is that you should immediately self-isolate at home for 7 days if you have a recent onset of:

- High temperature and/or
- A new continuous cough

We will authorise pupils' absence for self-isolation if needed. Your support with this matter is greatly appreciated and vital. This will protect others in the community while you are potentially infectious. Our understanding is that NHS 111 will give advice regarding the need for testing and possible hospitalisation if the severity of your symptoms worsens during this self-isolation period.

Please take the time to discuss the points below with your children.

Advice for children

DO

- Wash your hands with soap and water often – do this for at least 20 seconds
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze
- Put used tissues in the bin straight away and wash your hands afterwards
- Bring to school your own disposable tissues and follow the advice “Catch it! Kill it! Bin it!”

DO NOT

- Do not touch your eyes, nose or mouth if your hands are not clean
- Share any food or drinks with anyone else

Advice for parents and carers

DO

- Speak with your child about good hygiene as above
- Visit the following sites for the latest information

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

<https://gov.wales/coronavirus>

<https://gov.wales/coronavirus-covid-19-educational-settings-guidance>

- Update the school about any illness in your family or any concerns you have about contact with the coronavirus
- Update the school regarding any travel plans
- Stringently follow the guidelines on self-isolation with your children

DO NOT

- Be drawn into speculation or believe false information on social media

In summary, what to do if you think you or your child might have coronavirus

If you think you or your child might have coronavirus, or you've been in close contact with someone who has it:

- Self-isolate and the school will obviously authorise such absences
- Do not go to a GP surgery, pharmacy or hospital
- Use the NHS 111 online coronavirus service to find out what to do next

If you have any concerns, please contact the school. The health and wellbeing of students and staff is our greatest priority. Please be reassured that we will do whatever is necessary to protect the interests of our school community and we will keep you updated at each stage.