

Elite Safety in Education

CORONAVIRUS NEWSLETTER

March 2020

As you are all aware the Coronavirus may start to have an impact on daily lives and businesses.

Please ensure you stay up to date with the latest news and information from

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-information-for-the-public>

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

Here are some Qs we have been receiving from schools over the last few weeks.

Q What happens if I have been in contact with someone who has the Coronavirus?

A Health Care Professionals are working to contact anyone who has been in close contact with people who have Coronavirus, but call 111 for advice if you think you've been in close contact with someone with confirmed Coronavirus.

Q Someone at my child's nursery, school, university or work has just returned from China or another affected area, what should I do?

A You only need to stay away from school, work or university if you have been:

- To Hubei province in China in the last 14 days
- To Iran, areas of northern Italy in lockdown or "special care zone" areas in South Korea since 19 February
- to other parts of mainland China, Thailand, Japan, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Singapore, Malaysia or Macau in the last 14 days and have a cough, high temperature or shortness of breath
- To other parts of northern Italy (anywhere north of Pisa, Florence and Rimini), Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos or Myanmar since 19 February and have a cough, high temperature or shortness of breath
- In close contact with someone with confirmed coronavirus

Otherwise, you should continue to go to school, university and work as normal.

Q I'm pregnant and may have come into contact with people who have travelled to countries that may include China or other affected areas, what should I do?

A Although viruses like Coronavirus can sometimes cause more severe symptoms if you're pregnant, your risk of getting it in the UK is low.

- Make sure you follow simple hygiene measures to stop viruses like Coronavirus spreading, such as washing your hands with soap and water often and avoiding people who are unwell.
- Call 111 for advice if you've been in close contact with someone with confirmed Coronavirus.

If you're not sure if you've been in close contact with someone with coronavirus and you're worried about yourself or your baby, speak to your midwife or GP for advice.

Q Can pupils bring in anti-bacteria gel for their hands?

A Yes is the simple answer, but it is worth noting that it is preferred to be non-alcoholic gel.

This is because alcoholic gel contains ethanol and we also have to respect religious beliefs where parents do not want their children to come into contact with any type of alcohol (doesn't matter how small the amount)

Q Do I need a COSHH Data sheet if we use an Alcohol based sanitiser ?

A The short answer would be yes if the school is purchasing it for Staff and Pupils to use. **However** if Parents are supplying it direct to their child then the answer is a simple no, however the school should ensure a risk assessment is carried out (please see attached assessment for schools to use)

Q Should we substitute the washing of hands for anti-bacteria gel?

A No you should continue to encourage good hygiene within the school.

Washing hands with warm soapy water for at least 20 seconds especially before preparing and eating foods.

Q We are due to take Pupils abroad what shall we do?

A For the latest advice about travelling abroad, go to GOV.UK: foreign travel advice.

Please remember : Catch it Bin It Kill it

<https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/5e35b25740f0b609169cb52a/coronavirus-public-info-poster-2.pdf>