



St Edward's School

Unity - Achievement - Faith

26th February 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have received several queries about coronavirus, and we share, recognise and understand the concerns that parents and carers have.

The risk of coronavirus is low to moderate but St Edward's are continuing to monitor advice from Public Health England and the Department for Education and will follow all guidance issued to keep the school as safe as possible for our students and staff.

We know there has been some sensationalised fiction circulating on social media regarding other schools; and we ask for your support in helping us to ensure that children and young people are not misinformed, or made to worry unnecessarily. We will be sharing information from Public Health England with our students so they get a balanced understanding of the virus and how best to stay healthy. As with all matters of emotional and mental health, and e-safety, we commend those parents and carers who have very clear boundaries about managing their children's exposure to information on social media, especially at this time.

We remind all members of our school community of the following sensible steps from the NHS, to help everyone to stay healthy:

- Always carry tissues with you and use them to catch your cough or sneeze. Then bin the tissue, and wash your hands, or use a sanitiser gel.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water, especially after using public transport. Use a sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are unwell.

We are already enhancing hygiene practices across the campus, and will do more in the days ahead, to further reduce risk; and are working closely with other Poole schools.

Further advice which we will be displaying in school can be found at the following link

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/866771/Coronavirus_advice_for_education_settings_poster.pdf

Further information on coronavirus can be found on the government website:

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

<https://publichealthmatters.blog.gov.uk/2020/01/23/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-what-you-need-to-know/>

Thank-you in anticipation of your support for us, and for your child, at this time. As ever, do please contact your child's form tutor if you have any specific concerns.

Yours sincerely,

Mr M Antram
Headteacher