



12 March 2020

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Information

Dear Parents and Carers

I am writing to update you on measures we are taking at Tupton Hall School to address the coronavirus outbreak.

There will understandably be some concern among parents/carers, students and staff around this developing situation and whether self-isolation or even school closures may be necessary.

Information and advice

Please be reassured that we are taking every step to protect and inform our school community, following evolving guidelines from Public Health England, the Department for Education and the local authority, including:

- Posters on coronavirus and how to stop it spreading are widely displayed around school
- Hand washing facilities are available in all toilets, changing rooms and food preparation areas
- Students and staff are being reminded to wash their hands in line with official guidance
- Giving clear guidance on the criteria by which the decision to self-isolate is made
- Reviewing off-site school activities and visits

We receive regular notifications from the authorities regarding the status of the virus and its impact, and will keep you informed of any urgent updates or developments.

The latest guidance from Public Health England can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/coronavirus-covid-19-list-of-guidance>

The Department for Education has launched a helpline to answer education-related questions about coronavirus. Parents, staff and young people can contact the helpline by phone at 0800 046 8687 or email DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk

If you want to help your child to understand about coronavirus, children's mental health charity Place2Be has provided [advice on how to talk to them](#).

Digital learning in the event of isolation absences or school closure

The current advice is that schools should not close due to coronavirus – unless advised by Public Health England. However, we are making plans to minimise the effect on learning in the event that students need to self-isolate or schools need to close for a period of time.

Our digital learning platform [Class Charts](#) allows work to be set and completed remotely. You will have received a letter with more information and your child's log-in details. Please ensure your child knows how to log-on to Class Charts. If you do not have the letter, please contact your child's tutor or Head of House to request another one.



Summer examinations 2020

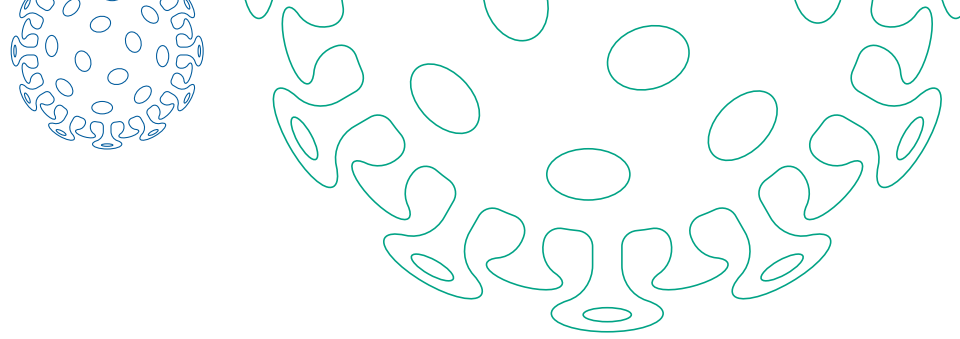
Ofqual, the The Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulation, is currently advising that schools and students should continue to prepare for exams and other assessments as normal. Our contingency plans will be reviewed in line with Ofqual advice and we will notify you if this changes. You can view their statement here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/updatedstatement-on-coronavirus>

If a decision is taken to close the school, this could happen at short notice. We will notify you via text and email, as well as sharing information on our school [website](#), [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) accounts. Please ensure that contact details we hold for you on the school system are up-to-date. You can check and change these via the SIMS Parent App or by submitting them in writing to the school office (an email or note in your child's planner will suffice.)

Thank you for your ongoing support and commitment to the school,

Andrew J Knowles
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



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. Parents can visit **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** for advice on coronavirus.

If there is an emergency, call 999 immediately

