

St Thomas' C.E. Junior and Infant School

Church Street, Warrington WA3 3TH

Headteacher: Mrs. J Woods. BA (Hons) MaST

Tel: 01942 728153

Website: www.golbornesaintthomas.wigan.sch.uk

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Covid-19 (Coronavirus) Precautions

Dear parents and Carers,

In light of the recent outbreak of Coronavirus and the subsequent confirmed cases in the UK we are sharing the guidance and advice published by Public Health England for people who have been out of the country recently, or in direct contact with a confirmed case.

There is currently no cause for concern at the school and we will keep you informed of any developments. As you can appreciate this is a constantly developing situation and government advice may change at any time.

If you or your children have returned from a Category 1 country or area in the past 14 days:

These countries include:

- Wuhan City and Hubei Province, China
- Iran
- Daegu or Cheongdo, South Korea (only if you have returned after 19th February 2020)
- Any Italian town under containment measures.

You should contact NHS 111 for advice and follow this advice from Public Health England, which they advise should be followed even if symptoms are minor:

- Self-isolate for 14 days after leaving the country or area
- If you become unwell, call NHS 111 immediately for an assessment (or 999 if you require emergency medical attention)

If you or your children have returned from a Category 2 country or area in the last 14 days:

These countries include:

- Cambodia
- China (other than Wuhan City or Hubei Province)
- Honk Kong
- Italy (north)
- Japan
- Laos
- Macau
- Malaysia
- Myanmar
- Singapore
- South Korea (other than Daegu or Cheongdo)
- Taiwan
- Thailand
- Vietnam
- Republic of Korea

You should follow this advice from Public Health England if you are fit and well:

- You don't need to avoid contact with other people
- Your other family members don't need to take any precautions or make any changes to their own activities.



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If you become unwell after returning from a Category 2 country PHE advice is:

- Stay indoors and avoid contact with other people as you would with other flu
- Call NHS 111 immediately for an assessment (or 999 if you require emergency medical attention)

If you have not visited any of the affected countries but have had direct contact with a confirmed case of Covid-19:

- You should call NHS 111 for advice.

Symptoms to look out for and actions to take:

- Cough
- Difficulty breathing
- Fever (a temperature of 38 degrees or higher)

According to other official guidance, while you wait for further advice:

- Avoid contact with others
- Stay at home – don't go to work or school
- Don't travel while sick
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when coughing or sneezing, and throw tissues in the bin
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds (or an alcohol based sanitiser if soap and water aren't available)

Preventing the spread of infection:

- Regularly wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or use an alcohol based sanitiser if soap and water aren't available. It is particularly important to wash your hands after being outside, being in public areas, handling money, using card machines, before touching your face, after coughing/ sneezing/ blowing your nose and before eating
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue then throw the tissue in the bin and wash or sanitise your hands
- Regularly clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces in the home
- If you are worried about any symptoms please call NHS 111 – don't go to your GP or other healthcare environments

A new helpline has been launched to answer questions about COVID-19 related to education. This can be accessed in the following ways:

- Phone 0800 046 8687. Opening hours are 8am – 6pm Monday to Friday
- Email DfE.coronavirus@education.gov.uk
- Website: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-information-for-the-public>

At school we teach the children about effective handwashing and all areas have access to hand sanitising gel.

Yours Sincerely
Mrs Woods

