

Coronavirus – update and advice

Dear Parents and Carers

This message includes information from the DfE to keep you updated on the government's response to COVID-19 (coronavirus). We are monitoring advice daily and taking all reasonable steps within that advice. As new information emerges today we will update you accordingly.

Plans are in place for teachers to be able to set and monitor work for your children should the school be either directed to close or forced to close as a result of instruction from Public Health England.

We have been and will continue to reassure our students and there are further assemblies planned in addition to guidance they are receiving from their teachers.

I fully understand that as new confirmed cases become known in our area it causes further questions about self-isolation and attendance in school. In order to support you as parents in making decisions there a link to guidance from the NHS below.

Thank you for your continued support

Best wishes

Rob Pearsall
HEADTEACHER

Information on our website as well as MyEd

Information will continue to be communicated via our MyEd direct messaging service but, in addition to this we will also have all current advice on our website. There is a direct link on the **green** banner at the top of each page. The direct link to the page is below:

<https://plymstockschool.org.uk/coronavirusinformation/>

NHS health information and advice

If you are concerned about contact with any individual impacted by a positive result, please follow the link below:

<https://111.nhs.uk/covid-19>

The link is a self-risk assessment. It will ask you a series of yes or no questions and give advice as to what your next steps are.

NHS 111 Online – latest coronavirus (COVID-19) advice:

Find out what to do if:

- you think you have symptoms
- you might have been exposed to the virus when travelling

The importance of hygiene

Personal hygiene is the most important way we can tackle COVID-19. Please help us in sharing simple and effective hand hygiene messages.

1. Wash your hands more often than usual, for 20 seconds using soap and hot water, particularly after coughing, sneezing and blowing your nose, or after being in public areas where other people are doing so. Use hand sanitiser if that's all you have access to.

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthy-body/best-way-to-wash-your-hands/>

2. To reduce the spread of germs when you cough or sneeze, cover your mouth and nose with a tissue, or your sleeve (not your hands) if you don't have a tissue, and throw the tissue away immediately. Then wash your hands or use a hand sanitising gel. May we ask that parents provide students with their own tissues to bring into school.
3. Clean and disinfect regularly touched objects and surfaces using your regular cleaning products to reduce the risk of passing the infection on to other people.

Department for Education coronavirus helpline

The Department for Education coronavirus helpline is available to answer questions about COVID-19 relating to education and children's social care. Staff, parents and young people can contact this helpline as follows:

Phone: 0800 046 8687

Email: DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk

Opening hours: 8am to 6pm (Monday to Friday)

Where to find the latest information

Updates on COVID-19:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19>

Travel advice for those travelling and living overseas:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/travel-advice-novel-coronavirus>

Latest Department for Education information:

<https://twitter.com/educationgovuk>

<https://www.facebook.com/educationgovuk/>