

March 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

**Re: Coronavirus update**

At Wellfield School we take the health and safety of our students seriously and do everything we can to ensure that our school is a safe place to be. Therefore, I am writing to inform you of our response to Covid-19 (Coronavirus) and ask you to take some steps to help us to protect staff and students.

In addition to considering and reviewing arrangements for all planned trips, Wellfield School is operating normally with no reported cases of the virus. We are, however, closely monitoring the advice and guidance from the Department for Education, the NHS and Public Health England and will comply with any instruction from them should the national situation continue to escalate.

We will, of course, inform parents and carers quickly in the event that any changes affect our school by letter, text message and through our website and social media channels.

**Preventing the spread of infection**

We must all play our part in preventing spread of the virus by practising excellent personal hygiene. Please ask your child to follow these steps:

- Use tissues to catch a cough or sneeze, then bin the tissue and wash hands.
- Wash hands thoroughly and often, particularly after using public transport, before leaving home, upon arrival at school, after using the toilet, after breaks and sporting activities, before food preparation, before eating any food and before leaving school.
- Avoid touching eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.

If you are worried you or your child has Covid-19 like symptoms, contact NHS 111 in the first instance for advice.

**Foreign travel**

All schools in England have received guidance from Public Health England and the Department for Education concerning returning students who have visited countries more seriously affected by the Coronavirus. If you have recently taken, or are planning to take, your child to any of the countries listed below, please let us know.

Current guidance is that if a person has visited a Category One country, travellers should self-isolate and contact NHS 111, irrespective of whether they have symptoms or not. This applies to **China - Wuhan city and Hubei Province, Iran, Republic of Korea - Daegu or Cheongdo, Italy (see additional note).**

If a person has visited a Category Two country, they do not need to undertake special measures unless they develop symptoms such as a cough, fever or shortness of breath. In that case they should stay indoors and call NHS 111 for further guidance. This applies to **Cambodia, China – except areas in category one, Hong Kong, Japan, Laos, Macau, Malaysia, Myanmar, Republic of Korea- except areas in category one, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand, Vietnam.**

**Italy**

- Travellers who returned from areas of Northern Italy that were under lock down between 19 February and 8 March 2020 should self-isolate for 14 days. If they develop symptoms they should contact NHS 111.
- Travellers who returned from the rest of Italy before 9 March 2020 do not need to undertake any special measures, but if they develop symptoms they should self-isolate and call NHS 111.

This advice is changing regularly and you can check the current guidance at <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus> .

Although we are currently operating normally, you will be aware of the ongoing uncertainty surrounding the virus and that guidance to the public, businesses and organisations, including schools, is changing daily. Therefore, please carefully consider the travel and health of yourself and your children, stay up to date with NHS guidance and check all communication from Wellfield School.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L. Rodham', written in a cursive style.

Linda Rodham  
Headteacher

