Dear parents and carers,

You may have seen several reports in the news regarding confirmed cases of Coronavirus throughout the UK.

I would like to reassure you that we remain in regular contact with Public Health England, the Department of Education and our Local Authority to ensure we have the most up-to-date advice and information. On their advice the school remains open as usual.

The Department for Education has established a coronavirus **telephone helpline 0800 0468687**, which is operational 0800-1800 Monday-Friday to answer your queries. You can also email **DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk**

The latest advice and information about the virus and the situation in the UK can be found on:

- the NHS website at https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/
- the government website https://www.gov.uk/guidance/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-information-forthe-public

The situation is continuing to change and therefore guidance regarding actions that should be taken for schools is being regularly updated.

Following the advice from the Department for Education and Public Health England, we are ensuring that children have been reminded about how to thoroughly wash their hands along with the importance of this.

In line with the most recent guidance, we will be ensuring that the children wash their hands when they come in to school and before they leave school at the end of the day. The advice also states that we should all wash our hands before leaving home to go to school or work.

Good hygiene is important at all times but, due to the current situation, we would ask for your support in playing our part in minimising the risk of the virus spreading at this time.

Everyone is being reminded to follow Public Health England advice: Like with other illnesses, coronavirus infection usually occurs through close contact with a person with novel coronavirus via cough and sneezes or hand contact.
- Always carry tissues with you and use them to catch your cough or sneeze. Then bin the tissue, and wash your hands with soap and water
- Wash your hands often with soap and water, especially after using public transport.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are unwell.

The NHS website contains useful hygiene and prevention advice: https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/