

Advice for parents/carers about Coronavirus and travel abroad this half term

Dear Parents and Carers,

Please find below information from the Royal Borough of Greenwich which we have been asked to circulate.

Today (13 February) the ninth case of Covid-19, the official name for the new coronavirus virus, has been confirmed in UK.

The risk of individuals getting Covid-19 in the UK remains low with the UK health system extremely well prepared to support anyone affected and to minimise the risk of outbreaks.

There is no reason why your children should not continue to attend their early years, school or further education setting as normal.

What action you and your family should take to help prevent the spread of Covid-19

A UK-wide campaign provides advice on what to do to prevent the spread of Covid-19 by taking some simple steps to ensure good hygiene. This includes:

- Always carry tissues and use them to catch coughs and sneezes, and bin the tissues.
- Wash hands with soap and water, or use sanitiser gel, to kill germs.

For further information visit: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

Advice for travellers

You may be planning to travel abroad this half term to countries where there is a higher risk of spread of the virus. The countries currently reported affected are: China, Thailand, Japan, Republic of Korea, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Singapore, Malaysia and Macau.

Public Health England has issued advice for those people wishing to travel to affected countries: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-information-for-the-public#advice-for-travellers>

For further advice for travelling abroad visit: <https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice>

Recently travelled?

Call 111 now if you have been to:

- Wuhan or Hubei Province in China in the last 14 days (even if you do not have symptoms).
- Other parts of China, including Macau and Hong Kong, in the last 14 days and have a cough, high temperature or shortness of breath (even if it's mild).
- Thailand, Japan, Taiwan, Singapore, Republic of Korea or Malaysia in the last 14 days and have a cough, high temperature or shortness of breath (even if it's mild).

In addition, call 111 if you have been in close contact with someone with confirmed Covid-19, if you have travelled recently or if you have any typical symptoms. These include fever and a cough that may progress to pneumonia causing shortness of breath and breathing difficulties.

Do not go to a GP surgery or hospital. Call 111, stay indoors and avoid close contact with other people. We need everyone's help to reduce the spread of the virus.