

Coronavirus update

There is a lot of information in the national and international news currently about the spread of the corona virus and the different responses to it. Some of that information is based on sound scientific evidence and can be trusted, whilst, as ever, there is also much false and misleading information, which can make this a potentially worrying time. As I wrote in my newsletter last week, I would like to reassure you that we continue to monitor the situation carefully and that the measures we are putting in place at Marden follow the daily advice and updates that I receive from the Department for Education.

One aspect we are monitoring particularly carefully is the return to school of students and staff who have been absent for any reason, including travel abroad. Where this has been the case, we have looked into each situation in detail, referring to the most up to date guidance from the government, and taking advice by speaking to the Department for Education. Currently there are no concerns around any of the students or staff in school.

Useful links

These give additional information which will help us all to contain the spread of the virus:

The latest travel guidance can be found here:

- <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-information-for-the-public>

Further information on what you should do if you are asked to self-isolate can be found here:

- <https://publichealthmatters.blog.gov.uk/2020/02/20/what-is-self-isolation-and-why-is-it-important/>

The importance of hygiene

Personal hygiene is the most important way we can tackle COVID-19, especially washing hands more; and the catch it, bin it, kill it strategy for those with coughs and sneezes.

Wash your hands more often for 20 seconds with soap and hot water.

In addition to handwashing before eating, and after coughing and sneezing, both children and staff should also wash hands after using toilets and travelling on public transport.

In addition to the information we are providing for everyone in school on good personal hygiene, we have also taken the following steps:

- Enhanced our onsite cleaning schedule on the daily sanitisation of all contact points (door handles, grab rails, taps, dispensers and push plates).
- Provided tool box talks on infection control, hand hygiene and contact point cleaning to all cleaning staff.
- Invested in hand sanitiser units to be installed across school.
- Modified water fountains to minimise the risk of infection.
- COVID-19 cleaning kits are ready for deployment should a disinfection clean be required in school. Each kit contains PPE and chemicals .

Advice from Public Health England continues to be for education settings to remain open, unless advised otherwise. The government are continually reviewing how best to support all educational settings and the impact of any measures will be considered carefully before being implemented. In the meantime, we continue business as usual with our students enjoying school and continuing to make the great progress they do here at Marden.

Thank you for your continued support.



Mr M Snape
Headteacher