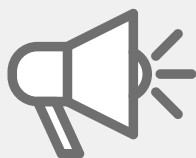


## CORONAVIRUS: INFORMATION FOR GOVERNING BOARDS

### 1 YOUR SCHOOL'S RESPONSE



Your school's response to the Coronavirus is an operational matter for school leaders to deal with. It is appropriate for the governing board to be kept informed of:

- The current advice for schools from Public Health England and the DfE
- Any guidance for schools provided by local health protection teams
- Arrangements for keeping parents and staff informed of the advice and the school's response
- Any measures taken in school to prevent the spread of the virus
- The response to any confirmed or suspected cases in school
- Any contingency plans the school has in place

### 2 DECIDING TO CLOSE THE SCHOOL DUE TO THE CORONAVIRUS



Closing the school is an operational decision taken by school leaders not governing boards

- School leaders will most likely have a discussion with the chair of the governing board before taking their decision to close the school
- The current advice from Public Health England is that no school should close in response to a suspected (or confirmed) case of Coronavirus unless directed to do so by Public Health England or under the advice of their local Public Health protection team

### 3 KEEPING INFORMED



Your school leaders should be monitoring closely the [government updates](#) and [guidance for education settings](#).

### 4 PREVENTING THE SPREAD OF THE VIRUS IN SCHOOLS



[Public Health England Advice](#) states that personal hygiene is the most important way of tackling Coronavirus

- Schools have been advised to share with their pupils, parents and staff the advice about regular handwashing with soap, the use of hand sanitiser gels (especially in communal areas), cleaning objects and surfaces, covering coughs and sneezes and avoiding touching the eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands
- Pupils and staff who feel unwell should stay at home
- Adults worried about their symptoms or those of a child should call NHS 111 and not go directly to their GP or other healthcare environments

### 5 DfE HELPLINE



The DfE has launched a helpline to answer questions about the Coronavirus.

**Phone: 0800 046 8687**

**Email: [DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk](mailto:DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk)**

