

**Coronavirus: Advice for early years providers and schools**  
**17:00, 11/02/2020**

Dear Headteacher,

Coronavirus continues to dominate the news. As this is a rapidly changing situation, the most up to date information can be found on [www.gov.uk/coronavirus](http://www.gov.uk/coronavirus). The website is updated daily so colleagues can check in for latest updates.

As the half-term period approaches, we recognise that some families and staff may be planning to travel to China and other affected areas. Schools are being reminded to take this opportunity to remind parents of things that people can do to help stop germs like coronavirus from spreading such as 'Catch It, Bin It, Kill It':

- Catch It: always carry tissues with you and use them to catch your cough or sneeze
- Bin It: bin the tissue
- Kill It: wash your hands with soap and water, or use a sanitiser gel

Here are some more tips on [preventing spread of infection](#).

Families and colleagues travelling overseas during the half-term holidays should check the [Foreign and Commonwealth Office travel advice](#).

Schools can also help by encouraging parents to ensure that their children are up to date with their vaccinations against other vaccine preventable diseases (especially the MMR vaccine which protects against measles). Parents can contact their GPs if they are unsure about their children's vaccination histories.

Here are some useful links to the most up-to-date information:

- Key source of information for the public: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-information-for-the-public>
- Blog / FAQ for the public: <https://publichealthmatters.blog.gov.uk/2020/01/23/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-what-you-need-to-know/>
- Guidance to assist professionals in advising the public: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov-guidance-to-assist-professionals-in-advising-the-general-public/guidance-to-assist-professionals-in-advising-the-general-public>
- Statement from the 4 UK Chief Medical Officers: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/statement-from-the-four-uk-chief-medical-officers-on-novel-coronavirus>
- Statement from the Foreign Office: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/fco-statement-british-nationals-in-hubei-province>
- Travel advice for those travelling and living overseas: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/travel-advice-novel-coronavirus>