

Dear all

I contacted Public Health England last night at 11.00pm after seeing the actions taken by a local school and the report in the Watford Observer. Below is the follow up email I was sent after the phonecall. This is a worrying time for us all. The best practice I can see is to continually monitor the situation, communicate with yourselves and take regular advice from Public Health England. We will be spending time this morning talking to the students about the guidance we are being given.

Best Wishes

Tim Body

Dear Tim,

Thanks for your enquiry. Apologies for the long email. The link below will take you to the guidance that reiterates the advice I gave earlier:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19>

1. Section 8. What to do if pupils, students or staff in your childcare or educational setting have travelled from any Category 1 specified country/area in the past 14 days. If an individual falls into this category, contact NHS 111 for further advice:

- if they are currently well, they should self-isolate for 14 days and you should follow the advice as above for contacts of confirmed cases in the educational setting
- if they become unwell please call NHS 111 immediately for them to be assessed by an appropriate specialist. You should follow the advice as above for contacts of confirmed cases in the educational establishment. If they require emergency medical attention, call 999 and tell the call handler or ambulance control that the person has a history of recent travel to risk areas for COVID-19

2. Section 5 - ...until the outcome of test results is known there is no action that staff members need to take apart from cleaning specific areas ([section 13](#)) and disposing of waste ([section 14](#)).

If a confirmed case occurs in an educational setting the local Health Protection Team will provide you with advice and will work with the headteacher, principal and or management team of that setting. Outside those that are defined as close contacts, the rest of the school does not need to take any precautions or make any changes to their own activities attending educational establishments or work as usual, unless they become unwell.

Hope this helps. If you have any queries, please contact the Health Protection Team on 03003038537 Option 1.

Best wishes.

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