



# ECKINGTON SCHOOL

*Achieving Excellence*

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Principal: A Burgess  
Executive Principal: W Barsby

6<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear parent / carer

You will be aware that the government is providing daily updates to schools regarding the possible impact of the coronavirus/COVID-19 outbreak in the UK.

Eckington School and LEAP Multi Academy Trust are monitoring the local situation and taking account of all government advice on this matter. The guidance is clear in stating that no school should close in response to a suspected (or confirmed) case of COVID-19 unless directed to do so by Public Health England.

As you will understand, the welfare of all of our students is our highest priority, so we are sharing with you websites and helpline numbers where you can get the latest information and guidance from:

NHS dedicated webpage: [www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19](http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19)

UK government dedicated webpage: [www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-information-for-the-public](http://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-information-for-the-public)

Department for Education Coronavirus helpline: 0800 046 8687. Opening hours are 8am-6pm, Monday to Friday.

There is also an email contact address: [DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk](mailto:DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk)

We are encouraging staff and students to follow guidance for reducing any spread of viruses, including:

- Covering your mouth and nose with a tissue or your arm (not your hand) if you cough or sneeze
- Putting used tissues in the bin immediately
- Washing your hands with soap and water often – and using hand sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available
- Trying to avoid close contact with people who are unwell

The clear advice to anyone who experiences any symptoms that are associated with COVID-19 is to call NHS 111.

We will continue to follow government advice as we work to ensure that your child's education continues successfully, day in and day out.

Best wishes

Alison Burgess  
Principal

