



4 March 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians,

The emergence of a Novel (new) Coronavirus called 2019-nCoV or COVID-19 was first discovered in Wuhan, China, and its spread to other parts of the world has generated a significant amount of news coverage and questions over the last few weeks.

The Ministry of Education and its operational arm of the Department of Education Services want to assure families and friends of our students, that we are taking all the necessary precautions. Our team is continuously monitoring developments and working diligently to make sure we are prepared. We have been working closely with the Health Services Authorities (HSA) and have committed to following their instructions.

We are not aware of any confirmed cases of 2019-nCoV. However, our local authorities are recommending that we all remain vigilant about monitoring symptom outbreaks and should all learn and practice control measures as listed below:

1. Read and review the attached 2019-nCoV Fact Sheet that includes symptoms and other details released by the Public Health Department. It can also be found on the HSA website at this link: www.hsa.ky/coronavirus

Coronavirus Symptoms	Infection Control Practices
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fever • Cough • Shortness of breath • Breathing difficulties <p>In severe cases:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Pneumonia 2. Severe acute respiratory syndrome 3. Kidney failure 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Frequent hand cleansing with soap and water or <u>alcohol-based</u> sanitizer 2. Covering nose or mouth when sneezing or coughing 3. Avoid contact with persons suffering from acute respiratory infections 4. Avoid contact with farm and or wild animals.

2. If your child/ward displays the symptoms outlined above, please:
 - a. Contact the Public Health Department at 244-2621 or for medical attention, contact the HSA’s Accident and Emergency Unit 244-2794 or 244-2792

- b. Do not send your child to school
- c. Immediately contact and inform your child/ward's school

We would also like to take this opportunity to remind and encourage everyone to continue to practice good hygiene and virus prevention practices. This includes:

- Maintain good hand hygiene by washing your hands often with soap and water, especially after coughing or sneezing.
- Cover your mouth and nose when you cough or sneeze using a tissue or your elbow.
- Avoid close contact with persons suffering from acute respiratory infections.

Thank you for partnering with us to keep all of our students healthy. We will continue to keep you updated with any additional information as needed.

Sincerely,



Cetonya Cacho

Chief Officer