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EYPUK Guidance on COVID-19 (coronavirus disease 2019)

### Guiding Principles

EYPUK is closely watching the situation concerning the global outbreak of COVID-19

The Departments of Health, Education the Chief Medical Officer and Public Health England may issue advice concerning COVID-19 that EYPUK and attending schools and students should follow

EYPUK is part of a European wide network and will adhere to any guidance issued by the International Office of the EYP

EYPUK is an organisation that operates in an educational setting, and normally adopts a “school rules” apply policy

The organisation will therefore follow all **government advice for educational settings**

### Government guidance for educational settings

The Department of Education and Public Health England last updated their advice for educational settings on 28th February: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19>

It highlights that:

Students should regularly wash hands with soap and water or alcohol hand sanitiser

Students or Staff who feel unwell should not attend an educational setting

There is no good evidence that people without symptoms are infectious

Individuals who have returned in the last 14 days from **Category 1** areas (Hubei province in China, Iran, Daegu, Cheongdo and any region in Italy **under containment measures** only) should self-isolate for 14 days and not attend educational settings

There is no need to close schools or cancel events unless directed by Public Health England. It is unlikely that isolated cases or contact with COVID-19 in a school will require it to close

### General Government Guidance (current as of 09.03.2020)

There is currently no official Government advice to restrict movements, avoid public places or travel less often within the United Kingdom

The Delay Phase of the UK Government Action Plan includes the possibility of advising the cancellation of large scale gatherings and closure of educational settings. Neither of these possible measures have been implemented to date

### The International Office of EYP have issued guidance on 28th February:

National EYP Organisations should remind participants of the importance of basic hygiene measures and keeping hydrated and well nourished

Young people do not seem to be at high risk of developing complications unless they have underlying medical conditions

National EYP Organisations and their participants should stay up to date with COVID-19 using trusted sources only and should **refrain from taking any measures that are not grounded in the advice of relevant public health authorities**

Organisers of EYP events should ensure that actions or statements do not contribute to stigma or discrimination towards any particular group, in accordance with Article 3 of the International Health Regulations

### Implications for EYPUK

If UK government advice is that a student or staff member should not attend school as a result of exposure to COVID-19 they should also refrain from attending EYPUK events

If a school receives official advice from government or local authorities that they should close as a result of a COVID-19 outbreak, they should not attend

EYPUK would comply with any government or local authority advice to cancel or postpone events

EYPUK will ensure all participants are reminded of the importance of regular handwashing, covering the mouth when coughing or sneezing and to promptly inform an organiser if they feel unwell

#### Current Implications as of March 5th 2020

* + No indication to cancel or postpone EYPUK events
  + No indication for social distancing measures or travel restrictions within the UK