

CORONAVIRUS ADVICE FOR PARENTS, FAMILIES AND SCHOOL COMMUNITIES

You may be aware of the outbreak of a novel coronavirus in Wuhan City, Hubei Province, China.

The Australian Government has advised that there is no cause for alarm with respect to the coronavirus and that the risk to the Australian public remains relatively low.

The Department of Education and Training has consulted with Victoria's Chief Health Officer and Department of Health and Human Services to provide the following advice to parents, families and school communities.

EXCLUSION OF WELL CHILDREN OR STAFF WHO HAVE TRAVELLED TO AFFECTED AREAS

In accordance with national public health guidelines and current information about the coronavirus from the Commonwealth Chief Medical Officer, it is not a requirement to exclude well children or staff from school if they have travelled to Wuhan, China, or any other areas where there have been reported cases, unless the following applies:

- the person is a confirmed case of novel coronavirus; or
- the person is a close contact with a confirmed case of novel coronavirus in the past 14 days.

If you think your child or a family member may meet one of the above criteria, please contact the dedicated hotline on 1800 675 398. Please keep Triple Zero (000) for emergencies only.

SEEKING MEDICAL ADVICE FOR YOUR CHILD

Please seek medical advice for any child who is:

- experiencing fever and respiratory symptoms (including but not limited to cough, sore throat, shortness of breath, body aches or fatigue); AND
- has recently travelled to Wuhan, China, or any other areas where there have been reported cases in the 14 days before of the onset of illness.

As with the above advice, please call the dedicated hotline on 1800 675 398 to discuss further actions.

MORE INFORMATION

For up-to-date information, please see the Department of Health and Human Services website: [Information for the public - novel coronavirus](#)