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Information for schools on the Coronavirus

The Department of Education and Skills has updated information for schools on Covid-19. This has been provided by the Department of Health and HSE Health Protection Surveillance Centre following a meeting of the National Public Health Emergency Team.

Public health doctors are available to liaise with schools and advise on precautions if staff and/or students have any concerns.

Anyone who has been to affected regions in the last 14 days and has a cough, shortness of breath, breathing difficulties or fever should self-isolate and phone their GP immediately. Anyone who has travelled from the affected regions and has no symptoms should visit www.hse.ie/eng/ for advice.

If you are aware of any of your pupils who have returned from any of the affected regions, for instance in the event of a school tour, their parents should be informed to this effect.

The Covid-19 affected regions are listed at present as mainland China, South Korea, Japan, Singapore, Hong Kong, Iran and the following regions of northern Italy - Lombardy, Veneto Emilia-Romagna and Piedmont.

The most important action we can take to protect ourselves from Covid-19 is regular hand-washing and good respiratory hygiene.

As further advice or information is provided, it will be issued to schools and posted on the Department's website.

Travel advice for all Irish citizens is provided through the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade – www.dfa.ie

The PDFs linked to here should be read to include the latest affected regions in northern Italy (Lombardy, Veneto Emilia-Romagna and Piedmont) and elsewhere as noted above. These PDFs will be updated accordingly as soon as possible.

Advice to schools and preschools

Further Information: https://www.hpsc.ie/

John Curtis General Secretary 25th February 2020