



Dear parents/carers

Please find below the latest advice from the Education Directorate in regards to managing novel coronavirus (COVID-19) at Gold Creek School.

Managing novel coronavirus (COVID-19) in ACT Public Schools

Australia is very well prepared to deal with novel coronavirus (COVID-19), with a suite of measures implemented to help stop the spread of the virus and protect Australians. All states and territories are taking a highly precautionary approach based on the latest and best medical advice.

The Education Directorate continues to work closely with ACT Health. ACT public schools are operating as normal and will continue to do so for the foreseeable future.

Plans have been developed for ACT schools to respond to the potential spread of COVID-19 in school communities. When and if there is a case of COVID-19 in the ACT, these plans will be scaled in proportion to the spread of the virus.

Our response will be based on ACT Health advice and learnings from other jurisdictions. This may include that if a student or staff member were to test positive to the virus, the impacted school may close for a short period while ACT Health investigates the incident and the school is closed appropriately. Those students and staff identified as close contacts of a case will need to self-quarantine at home for 14 days

At this point in time, the best way to minimise any transmission of the coronavirus is for students and families to continue with good hand and respiratory hygiene to prevent the spread of germs.

Please be assured that the health and safety of students, families and staff is our top priority. We will continue to monitor any developments across Australia and here in the ACT and keep our school communities updated.

Parents and carers of children with an existing medical treatment plan may wish to review their plan with their child's GP and notify the school if there is a change to the plan.

What should I do if my child is sick?

If your child develops any symptoms such as a fever, cough, sore throat or shortness of breath:

- *Call your GP in the first instance. By calling your GP before arriving they can take appropriate infection control measures.*
- *Call your school to let them know.*

Please do not send your child to school if they are showing any symptoms of sickness. Once your child is well again, they can return to school.

Where can I go for more information?

The community is urged to keep up to date through the ACT Health website (www.health.act.gov.au). This is where the latest health advice is available. People can also call the Coronavirus Health Information Line on 1800 020 080 for further information on COVID-19. The line operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

