



Cirrus Primary Academy Trust, a charitable company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales with company number 09642581. Registered office address: Avenue Primary Academy, Avenue Road, Sutton SM2 6JE

Correspondence/office address:

Cirrus Primary Academy Trust  
c/o Kingsley Primary Academy  
Thomson Crescent  
Croydon  
CR0 3JT

Telephone: 020 8394 4775  
email: office@cirrustrust.uk

Dear Parents/Carers,

**COVID-19 Advice Update**

**16<sup>th</sup> March 2020**

**All our academies are working closely with the Trust and the Local Authority to ensure we are following the most up to date guidance and planning appropriately. There have been no confirmed cases of Coronavirus in any Cirrus Trust academies.**

We are conscious that parents, carers and children will be worried at this time but we wish to assure you that our school and the Trust are following the daily advice and guidance from Public Health England. As you will have seen, the Prime Minister has announced that the UK has moved to the 'delay' phase in response to the Coronavirus (COVID-19).

The main developments for all schools was the advice on the self-isolating procedures and that international trips should be cancelled.

We do ask that parents and carers inform us immediately if you or your child has had to self-isolate. If you have the following symptoms you should stay at home for 7 days or until the symptoms have gone.

If you have either:

- a high temperature above 37.8 degrees
- a new, continuous cough – this means you've started coughing repeatedly

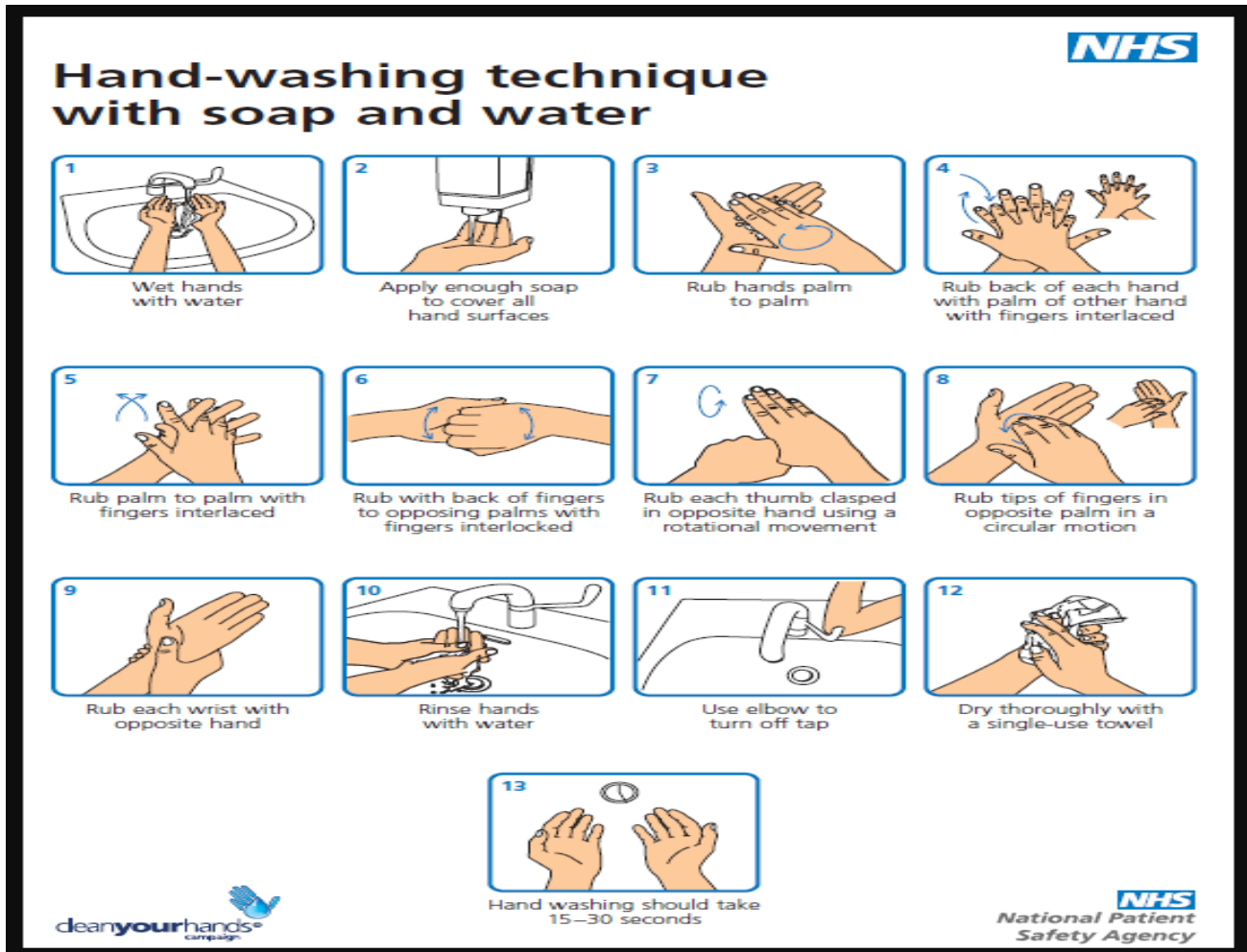
We know that this announcement has raised important questions for our academies. The most obvious being what to do in the event of staff shortages due to self-isolation. If staff shortages mean that the Trust, with the Head Teacher, believes it would not be safe to open the school, they may have to take the decision to close until it is safe to re-open. In this eventuality, we would be very clear to our parents and carers that the closure is due to staff shortages, rather than directly linked to a Covid-19 diagnosis.

- We have also been enhancing our cleaning regimes in accordance with government guidance.
- On entry to all academies staff and visitors will be asked to use hand sanitiser/wash their hands.
- Children will be reminded and guided to wash their hands when they arrive at school, after playtime and before lunch.

Please be assured that we have begun to look at our planned activities, day to day arrangements and a variety of other scenarios to consider any further measures that we will need to put in place.

There have been some concerns raised regarding a lack of hot water at some locations for handwashing. Clinical studies and information from the NHS are clear hot or cold water makes no difference. The important factor is the use of soap or antibacterial soap and the length of time and method of washing hands. Please see below for your information:

# The importance of hygiene



## Department for Education Coronavirus helpline

A new helpline to answer questions about COVID-19 related to education. Staff, parents and young people can contact the helpline as follows:

Phone: 0800 046 8687

Email: [DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk](mailto:DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk)

Opening hours: 8am to 6pm (Monday to Friday)

No school should close in response to a suspected (or confirmed) COVID-19 case unless directed to do so by Public Health England.

Yours sincerely

**Sharon Roberts**  
Interim CEO  
Cirrus Primary Academy Trust