



Association of Community
and Comprehensive Schools

*Cumann na Scoileanna Pobail
agus Cuimsitheacha*

26th February, 2020.

**The Secretary,
Board of Management and
School Principal in
each Community and Comprehensive School.**

Members of the Executive of ACCS.

ACCS/Info Bulletin 11/20

Re: Information on novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV).

Please see attached '**Information for schools and pre-school settings and parents of students/children on novel coronavirus 2019-nCoV v2.3 07.02.2020**'.

The following information has since issued from the employers' organisation IBEC.

This is the current advice from the Health Protection Surveillance Centre (*accurate 25/2/20*):

If, in the past 14 days, an individual has:

- travelled to Ireland from any of the identified affected countries/regions e.g. Italy, Tenerife (see attached [here](#))
- been in contact with a person who has novel Coronavirus, or
- attended a hospital/healthcare facility where patients with novel Coronavirus are being treated

AND

they feel well and do not have any symptoms of respiratory disease, they need to:

Phone the local Department of Public Health for advice. Staff at the local Department of Public Health will provide them with information on coronavirus and advise them on what to do if you become sick. Contact details for Departments of Public Health can be found at below link:

<https://www2.hse.ie/conditions/coronavirus/coronavirus.html> (correct of 25/2/20)

However

If in the past 14 days, an individual has:

- travelled to Ireland from any of the identified areas above, or
- been in contact with a person who has novel Coronavirus, or
- attended a hospital/healthcare facility where patients with novel Coronavirus are being treated

AND they **feel unwell**, especially with respiratory symptoms (e.g. cough, high temperature, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing), then they should:

isolate themselves (i.e. stay separate from other people) and phone their GP immediately – giving their GP their travel history and symptoms. A GP should be contacted by phone rather than arriving at the GP's surgery without contacting them so that they don't put staff or other patients at risk of infection. Your GP will advise you of the next steps over the phone.

The FAQs document on the HPSC website also details instructions for employers in this situation, linked below:

<https://www.hpsc.ie/a-z/respiratory/coronavirus/novelcoronavirus/>

Is mise,
le mór mheas,



John Irwin,
GENERAL SECRETARY.