



# GOVERNMENT OF ANGUILLA

Office of the Minister of Home Affairs, Immigration, Labour, Human Rights, Constitutional Affairs, Information and Broadcasting, Education and Library Services

## **Ministry and Department of Education's Statement on Corona Virus**

The Ministry and Department of Education continue to closely monitor the situation regarding the Corona Virus (COVID-19). The Ministry has taken several preventative measures in this regard. These include:

1. Collaborating with the Ministry of Health in ensuring that the Ministry is kept abreast of all recent developments regarding the virus.
2. Requesting guidelines from the Ministry of Health regarding the actions to be taken by schools to prevent an outbreak. These guidelines have been issued to schools and include:
  - a. More frequent handwashing and sanitisation;
  - b. Ensuring sick students and staff are sent home; and
  - c. Increased sanitisation of frequently touched areas such as doorknobs, table tops, light switches etc.
3. Urging schools to be vigilant in ensuring that students practice good hygiene and engage in frequent hand washing.
4. Deploying school health nurses to schools to sensitise students and staff on the need to follow proper handwashing techniques and other hygienic practices at all times especially when using bathroom facilities, prior to and after eating, play etc.
5. Distribution of flyers by the school health nurses in schools with information regarding the virus and the preventative measures to be taken. Flyers have been and are being placed in high visibility areas at schools.
6. Identifying and procuring additional resources to ensure increased monitoring of bathrooms and deep cleaning of surfaces throughout the school.
7. Collaborating with the Ministry of Health to develop a plan of action on the steps to be taken in the event that someone at school becomes infected.

The Ministry and Department of Education will continue to monitor the situation and ensure that all necessary measures are taken to protect the health and wellbeing of staff and students. In the coming week guidelines will also be issued to parents regarding what can be done at home to prevent infection and spread.

The public is encouraged to remain calm and be guided by the information from the Ministry of Health, the official source of information on the Corona Virus.

Honourable Cora Richardson Hodge

Minister of Education

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