



March 9, 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians,

The Louisiana Department of Hospitals has confirmed that Louisiana has its first presumptive positive case of COVID-19, commonly referred to as coronavirus. The patient is confirmed to be a Jefferson Parish resident who is hospitalized in Orleans Parish. This is the only known case of the illness in the state at this time. We continue to be in close contact with the City of New Orleans, local and state health departments and the New Orleans Office of Homeland Security and will continue to provide updates and share updated protocols and key action steps throughout the week.

Reminders:

Take the following proactive steps to protect the health of yourself and those around you:

- Cover your cough.
- Stay home if you are sick.
- Wash your hands frequently and thoroughly with soap and water, or with a hand sanitizer containing at least 60% alcohol if soap and water are not available.
- Disinfect frequently touched surfaces.
- Avoiding close contact (within six feet) with those who are sick.

Symptoms can include fever, cough and shortness of breath or difficulty breathing. CDC believes at this time that symptoms of COVID-19 may appear in as few as two days or as long as 14 days after exposure.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- For updates locally, please visit ready.nola.gov or call [311](tel:311)
- For updates on the state's response to the coronavirus situation, visit LDH.louisiana.gov/Coronavirus.
- Members of the public with questions about coronavirus may call the coronavirus general information line at [1-855-523-2652](tel:1-855-523-2652) from 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. **Monday** through Friday.

Sincerely,

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