

## Response to COVID-19 of Municipal Elementary/Junior High Schools

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation with our educational activities.

Some of Toyonaka municipal elementary/junior high schools have experienced temporary closures because of COVID-19 infections of students and teachers. Also, more than 100 students/teachers had to stay home for 14 days identified as close contact of a person with COVID-19.

In many cases, children get infected from household members, and nearly half of them do not have any symptoms. In order to prevent the spread of infection in schools, it is important not to bring virus into school in the effort of cutting off the source of infection.

While making efforts to secure the safety in schools, we request you to be watchful about the health conditions of your child and other family members, noting the points below. In case there is a possibility of coronavirus infection from your household members, keep your child at home. Thank you for your continued understanding and cooperation.

### 【Points】

- If your child has cold-like symptoms including a fever, he/she will be suspended from attendance, because he/she may be infected with coronavirus. Have him/her rest at home.
- If any of your family members has cold-like symptoms including a fever, your child will be suspended from attendance even if he/she does not have any symptoms. Keep your child at home.
- Both of the measures above are based on the School Health and Safety Act, Article 19. Your child will not be regarded to be absent from school, because he/she is suspended from attendance according to a law.
- We will try to support your child's learning and secure his/her mental and physical safety during his/her stay at home. If you have any concerns, feel free to contact the school.
- If you have a child attending a kodomo-en, nursery school and so on, inquire at each childcare facility regarding their response to COVID-19.
- If your child or a household member gets a PCR test, inform the school, too.

School Health and Safety Act, Article 19 (Suspension from Attendance):

If a child is, is suspected to be, or may be infected with an infectious disease, the principal can suspend the child from attendance according to the regulation.

### 【Schools' Prevention Measures】

- We check the health conditions of students by health observation and other measures.
- In order that students get correct knowledge about infection prevention and behave appropriately, we will provide students with information on how to protect themselves, including careful hand washing with running water and cough etiquette.
- As long as weather permits, we keep windows and doors on two sides open for ventilation of a classroom. If it is difficult to keep them open all the time, we ventilate the rooms opening windows and doors on a regular schedule such as during the breaks between classes.
- We may instruct students to remove their facial masks if we can secure enough physical distance, if the WBGT (Wet Bulb Globe Temperature) in the area where the students have activities is extremely high, and other conditions. We may also have them remove masks in order to prevent heat stroke, during physical activities such as PE classes and going to/from school.