

Dear All Citizens of Hirakata City

Today (July 21<sup>st</sup>), a junior high school student in Hirakata has been confirmed COVID-19 positive. I heard that the student's symptom was mild. I do hope that the student will be able to recover as soon as possible.

The school the student with COVID-19 attends is temporarily closed from July 22<sup>nd</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup>.

An epidemiological investigation (investigation on close contact) by Hirakata Public Health Centre shows none has closely contacted with the student in the school. On the reopening of the school, we will do our best for children to go to the school in peace by carrying out safety measures such as disinfection and providing sufficient information about the current situation.

Please do not tweet any misleading messages in SNS or take wrong action against the school and students based on an incorrect rumour like "if getting near to the school a student with COVID-19 attends, you are also infected". Anyone has a risk of being infected with the virus. Please take right action based on correct information.

The declaration of emergency state by the central government was lifted. However, the number of new patients with COVID-19 is increasing in Tokyo. Even in Osaka, the spread of COVID-19 is continuing. 14 citizens of Hirakata City have been confirmed COVID-19 positive in this month. I would like to ask everyone to keep on new life manners called "new normal" such as avoiding 3Cs (Closed-off, Crowded, and Close conversations), covering your mouth and nose when coughing, and frequently washing your hands. I also would like to ask for your continuous cooperation for our anti-infectious activities.

To protect you from COVID-19 by taking every possible measure, we will work together with organisations concerned.

FUSHIMI Takashi  
Mayor of Hirakata City  
July 21<sup>st</sup>, 2020