



27th February 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

Further to our previous correspondence concerning the outbreak of the coronavirus (COVID-19), the school continues to carefully monitor all official guidance and advice.

Public Health England (PHE) and the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) have updated their guidance for returning travellers today to include other countries, areas and regions in light of a recent spread. The risk to individuals in the UK remains low.

For any pupil who has recently returned from mainland China, parents must inform the school immediately. Pupils in this situation will be required to self-isolate in the UK for a period of 14 days before being allowed to return to school. Self-isolation will now also be mandatory for anyone who is planning to travel to, or via, or who has recently returned from: Iran, lockdown areas in Northern Italy (as designated by the Government of Italy: towns in the Lombardy and Veneto regions) and special care zones in South Korea (as designated by the Government of the Republic of South Korea: Daegu and Cheongdo).

Those pupils who have travelled to any of the following countries: Japan, Hong Kong, Macau, Malaysia, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Taiwan and Thailand and who have developed any symptoms, even if very mild, of cough, fever, shortness of breath must inform the school immediately and will be required to self-isolate for 14 days before being permitted to return to school. This requirement has now been extended to include anyone who has returned from any of the following countries or regions **since 19th February**: anywhere in Northern Italy (above, but not including Pisa, Florence and Rimini), Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos and Myanmar.

The school should also be notified promptly where students have knowingly come into contact with parents, members of their household or visitors to the home who have travelled to any of the areas listed above and have displayed any of the symptoms listed above.

Please be assured that similar restrictions are in place for staff and visitors.

At this stage there is no reason to expect that school will have to close, though you will be aware that schools have been subject to closure as part of the counter-measures to contain the spread of the virus.



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All planned school trips and visits are undergoing constant review and parents of any students affected by cancellations or postponements will be contacted separately as soon as decisions are taken.

The advice for anyone suffering the symptoms listed above is as follows: stay indoors and avoid contact with other people as you would the flu, call NHS 111 and follow their advice. The latest information can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-information-for-the-public> and <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/wuhan-novel-coronavirus/>

We are grateful for your continued support in this complex and evolving situation. We will continue to update you as and if the requirements or advice changes and we will continue to follow government advice.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Bindu Rai

Principal