



PitsfordSchool

CGW.jbr

10 February 2020

Re: Novel Coronavirus

Dear Parents,

I am writing to you with an update relating to the Novel Coronavirus and the further measures the school is taking to keep all pupils and staff safe. We continue to monitor the situation regularly and to, follow the advice of Public Health England (PHE), the Boarding Schools' Association (BSA) and the Association for the Education and Guardianship of International Students (AEGIS).

As I am sure you know, the Foreign and Commonwealth Office has advised against all but essential travel to China. As a result the school strongly advises against pupils travelling to, or receiving visits from affected countries at half-term. Anyone choosing not to follow this advice will be required to self-isolate in the UK for a period of 14 days before being allowed back into school.

I have also placed restrictions on all other visits to and from affected areas for the time being, including those by staff.

It is highly likely that these restrictions will still be in place at Easter, and everyone must now plan for that eventuality. Any pupil travelling to or receiving visitors from an area which is currently at risk or becomes so before the start of the summer term will be required to self-isolate in the UK for a period of 14 days before being re-admitted to school. Therefore those pupils who have been with their parents in the UK for the whole Easter break will be outside the incubation period and able to return to school, unless they have been in contact with other potentially infected persons. Should the virus begin to spread within the UK, this guidance will be updated in accordance with the Chief Medical Officers' requirements.

The whole school community is being fully supportive of those with friends and family in affected areas and we are well aware of the significant burden of any restrictions the school makes. Please be assured however that the health and welfare of each and every member of the school community is our primary concern. I am extremely grateful to everyone for your on-going support and engagement at this difficult time. I shall continue to update you as the situation develops.

If you are planning to visit an affected area, or if you will be meeting visitors from an affected area, please will you inform the school, so that we are aware that your child will be absent from school for 14 days, when your family is in self-quarantine.

Yours sincerely

C G Walker
Headmaster

Headmaster: Dr.C Walker

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