

Dear Parents/Carers,

We continue to monitor development of the Coronavirus/Covid-19 epidemic and would like to update you now on new advice concerning overseas travel. The incidence in the last week of a serious outbreak in northern Italy brings the epidemic closer to home and is particularly concerning given the rapidity of it spreading here.

Today's advice from Public Health England is that if you have returned from travel since February 19 from:

- Iran
- Specific lockdown area in Northern Italy (as designated by the Government of Italy – Lombardy and Veneto)
- Specific care zones in South Korea (as designated by the Government of the Republic of South Korea)
- Hubei Province (returned in the past 14 days)

You should immediately:

- Stay indoors and avoid contact with other people as you would with the flu
- call NHS 111 to inform them of your recent travel to the area

This advice applies even if there are no symptoms. Please find the link to the latest advice here: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-information-for-the-public>

There are a number of other areas which have been identified as high risk, as follows:

- China
- Taiwan
- Hong Kong
- Macau
- Japan
- Korea
- Singapore
- Thailand
- Malaysia
- Vietnam
- Laos
- Myanmar
- Northern Italy

If you or any member of your family have travelled or come into close contact with anyone who has returned from these high risk areas in the last 14 days, please alert the school immediately.

We would like to ask for your support with the following:

- It is recommended that you do not travel to any of these countries in the next 2 months unless essential.
- If you, your children or any member of your family living with you, intend to travel to any of the above countries, we ask that you inform the school immediately by contacting the school office.
- Upon your return, please contact us before sending your child back to school, so we can review whether it is appropriate for your child to return straight away.

Where children have been kept at home, the school will provide school work so they do not fall behind. We appreciate these measures may be inconvenient to affected families but trust that you understand and are in support of our aim to protect the health and safety of all our children and wider school community.

Finally, we reiterate the important advice provided by Public Health England with regard to essential hygiene measures including regular handwashing, throwing away tissues after sneezing/blowing your nose and coughing into your arm/folded elbow, avoiding coughing into hands.

Thank you for helping us to take all the appropriate precautions at this time. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch. We will keep you updated as this challenging situation develops.

Yours sincerely

Mrs S Yay-Walker
Headteacher