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Tuesday 11 February 2020

Dear Parent,

## **Novel Coronavirus**

We are conscious that there may be some concern among our community regarding the Novel Coronavirus outbreak and write to assure you that we continue to monitor the complex and changing picture regularly to ensure the well-being and care of every member of our school community. You should not be unduly worried about the possibility of your child/ren catching the Coronavirus. There is also no reason why your child/ren should not continue to attend school as normal.

As of yesterday, a total of 1,114 people have been tested, of which 1,106 were confirmed negative and 8 positive. For this reason, the UK risk level has increased from low to moderate, although the risk to individuals in the UK remains low. Nonetheless I'd like to reassure you that the school not only have planning in place should the situation escalate but will be taking the following measures within school over the next few days:

- We will remind staff and pupils on how to reduce the risk of spreading any respiratory virus (including colds and flu)
- We will encourage regular hand-washing
- Ensure cleaning regimes are extra thorough throughout school, especially in relation to hand-contact surfaces.

We would ask the following of you please:

- If your child is unwell or has symptoms of a bad cough, cold or flu, please stay at home and call NHS 111 if concerned, rather than attending a GP surgery
- If you are planning to travel outside Europe at half term, or receive visitors from some
  of the most affected areas (see overleaf), please let us know so that we can plan and
  advise accordingly
- The current advice is that travel to China/affected regions during the holidays is not advised and that self-isolation in the UK for a period of 14 days is recommended before returning to school. This also applies where families have received visitors from affected areas. If this applies to your family please let me or a member of the Leadership Team know directly so that we can advise.

Head Teacher: Ken Johnson Deputy Head: Leona Baffour





- It is likely travel will also be affected over the Easter holiday, so please bear this in mind when planning any trips.
- The most affected countries outside mainland China with 10 or more cases are currently: Japan, Thailand, Republic of Korea, Hong Kong, Singapore, Australia, USA, Malaysia, Macau, and Taiwan.

Latest updates can be found here: <a href="https://www.gov.uk/guidance/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-information-for-the-public">https://www.gov.uk/guidance/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-information-for-the-public</a>.

If you require any further information, do not hesitate to contact me.

Your sincerely,

Ken Johnson

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