



The Manor
Preparatory School

To All Parents

Friday 6 March 2020

Dear Parents

Coronavirus Update

Further to recent correspondence, we thought we would update you on what is happening within schools and there is now some travel information that we will need from you please.

We are continuing to closely monitor the guidance from [Public Health England](#).

As some of you will know, we took the decision to cancel a fixture this week, against a school that informed us that they had a small number of *unconfirmed* cases of Coronavirus, due to travel in Category 2 areas and I would like to remind you of the current advice for schools:

- You must inform the school by completing the online form [here](#) of any travel plans, outside the UK, so that we can keep a log of countries visited in the event that guidance changes
- You must also indicate [here](#) if you or anyone you are in contact with, are travelling to or from Category 1 or Category 2 areas as this is a dynamic situation and guidance may change at any time
- According to Public Health England, travellers to and from Category 2 areas do not need to self-isolate, unless they develop symptoms. Children who have been in Category 2 areas, within the last fourteen days are allowed in school, unless they develop symptoms. Anyone developing symptoms should call 111 for NHS advice and self-isolate
- Children who have travelled to or are in contact with travellers from Category 1 areas should self-isolate for fourteen days and as long as symptoms do not develop, they are permitted back in school after this time
- If you have travel plans for the Easter break, it is likely that the current restrictions will remain in place so please think carefully about your family's travel plans. Current guidance is to only limit or cancel travel to high incidence locations (Category 1 areas). Please also ensure that you follow the isolation procedures listed above if you or your children develop symptoms
- Please exercise caution if you are planning to visit events with large numbers of people
- We will contact other schools regarding the viability of sports fixtures on a case by case basis

- We will be contacting all of our external hirers to advise them, and any of their clients, not to attend our school if they are unwell and to follow the isolation advice that is currently available regarding travel
- Visitors to the school are subject to the same information sharing regarding their travel patterns and plans
- Please help us to remind children of the need for scrupulous hand washing and hygiene at this time – supervising hand washing where possible, encouraging frequent hand washing with soap and warm water, providing adequate supplies of tissues, educating children in the use and disposal of tissues, covering the mouth and nose for coughs and sneezes, avoiding touching the face, will all help to contain the spread of germs
- Try to avoid contact with people who are unwell where possible
- NHS 111 is the number to call if you have any concerns regarding the health of your family
- Whilst some of the symptoms of Coronavirus are reminiscent of colds and flu, a reminder of the symptoms is:
 - Fever
 - Dry cough
 - Shortness of breath

Whilst all of this may serve to alarm us, we must keep sight of the fact that, at the moment, schools are being advised to stay open.

We will continue to monitor the children's forthcoming activities which require the children to be taken off site and let you know, on a case by case basis.

Naturally we want to make the best possible decision each day to ensure a safe environment for our community and we do appreciate that this may mean that some changes occur at short notice. We apologise in advance for any inconvenience caused.

We will continue to take advice from Public Health England, The Independent Association of Prep Schools and The Independent Schools Bursars' Association and work proactively to maintain the health of our community. Our thoughts remain with all those who are affected by this illness throughout the world.

Please feel free to contact myself or our School Nurse, Judy Ramm, if you have any concerns.

Best wishes

Alastair Thomas
Headmaster