

BRYANSTON

29 January 2020

Dear parents,

Following the Headmaster's email to parents of 28 January 2020, I am writing to advise you about the School's current position in relation to the Novel Coronavirus following recent information which has been published. We are continuing to monitor the situation carefully based on advice from Public Health England (PHE), the School Doctor, the Independent Schools Council (ISC) and from the Boarding Schools' Association (BSA). It is clear from everything that has been written that this is a complex and changing picture and we are monitoring this on a regular basis.

We are currently not accepting visits from affected areas in China and other affected regions until further information is provided. Furthermore, all staff and pupils, particularly medical centre and boarding staff, have been briefed on the signs and symptoms of the Novel Coronavirus. The latest update from the NHS can be found here:

www.nhs.uk/conditions/wuhan-novel-coronavirus

As half-term approaches, we ask any pupil or family intending to travel to/from, or have direct contact with anyone from, a Novel Coronavirus affected area, to inform us immediately.

The Foreign and Commonwealth Office currently advises against travel to Hubei Province in China. It also advises against all but essential travel to the rest of mainland China (not including Hong Kong and Macao). We ask parents of children who are living in or travelling to affected areas to speak to their child's UK guardian to check that accommodation can be provided to look after the child at half-term (i.e. to prepare contingency arrangements in the UK) and to keep Housemasters/ Housemistresses informed about arrangements. It is likely to be the case that any child returning to an affected area will not be able to return to Bryanston after half-term unless or until the situation has changed.

We will continue to keep you informed about the position as the situation develops and official advice changes in response to a changing situation. At present, it is worth pointing out that there have been no reported cases of Novel Coronavirus in the UK. It is also worth pointing out that the welfare of all pupils and the whole Bryanston community is our priority and we need to take great care to consider the situation carefully, looking after all pupils, from wherever their home is, to the best of our ability. We are well aware that we have a number of pupils who live in countries that have been affected by the virus and are understandably anxious about the situation.

Please do contact the School if there are any further queries.

Yours sincerely

P J Hardy
Second Master