



# International School of Kenya

Empowering students to create solutions for tomorrow's challenges

March 6, 2020

Dear ISK Community,

We continue to monitor developments surrounding Coronavirus (COVID-19) both in Kenya and worldwide. ISK maintains regular contact with the [U.S. Center for Disease Control and Prevention](#) (CDC Kenya), U.S. Embassy Medical Officer, and monitors the information provided by the Kenyan National Emergency Response Committee on Coronavirus. As of today (March 6), the CDC confirms cases of Coronavirus in Sub-Saharan Africa in Nigeria, Senegal, and South Africa. There are no confirmed cases in Kenya.

In addition, the school continues to review and update our processes and practices at school relating to cleaning and hand washing. ISK's administration and teachers continue to develop plans to support student learning in the event of extended absence from school, including those in self-quarantine, and in the event of forced school closure. We remain confident the measures, plans, and protocols that we have in place are ready for implementation if needed.

We ask that everyone take an active role in helping keep our shared school environment as healthy as possible. Please take note of [the symptoms](#) of the Coronavirus as well as how to stop the spread of germs that cause disease. We want to reiterate the following points and recommend reviewing the [CDC website](#) for more information.

- Covering the mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing is critical, as is consistent washing of hands with soap or hand sanitizer.
- If any conditions develop during the school day, a parent will be contacted to collect your child from school, and our medical staff will advise on further steps to follow.
- If you suspect you are infected with COVID-19, immediately seek medical advice and follow these steps to help prevent the disease from spreading.
- Symptoms - fever, dry cough, shortness of breath.

The school will hold a Community Town Hall as indicated below in collaboration with CDC Kenya and the U.S. Embassy Medical Office.

## **ISK March Break (March 14-22) and Non-Essential Travel**

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We believe as a school, we have the responsibility to maintain a healthy and safe community. As such, ISK will be following the recommendation to avoid non-essential travel to countries listed by the CDC as Level 3 Risk – Avoid non-essential travel. As of today, March 6th, Level 3 risk countries are China, Iran, Italy, and South Korea. The community is advised to regularly check the CDC's list of [Level 3 rated countries Coronavirus Disease 2019 Information for Travel](#).

Many of our community members frequently travel, particularly over the holidays, such as the upcoming March Break. ISK strongly advises all community members to adhere to the CDC travel advice. Should members of the community choose to travel to an area listed by the CDC as Level 3 'Avoid Non-essential Travel,' on return to Kenya, those individuals will be required to self-quarantine for a minimum of 14 days, as per CDC advice. Any community member who has traveled to countries that are subsequently listed as Level 3 Risk by the CDC will also be required to self-quarantine for a minimum of 14 days.

ISK's Admin Team and Tech Team have further developed a Virtual Learning Environment to continue the education of our students. This would include online learning, and other ways we can provide instruction and content to our students, should students need to be self-quarantined.

**Reminder: Community Town Hall - Saturday, March 7, 9:30 a.m., Commons MPR (new location)**

ISK, with the support of the U.S. Center for Disease Control (Tai-Ho Chen, MD, MPH, Division of Global Health Protection - CDC Kenya) and the U.S. Embassy Medical Office (Ayan H. Ahmed Noor MD MPH, Regional Medical Officer – Nairobi) will hold a town hall meeting on Saturday, March 7, during the Farmer's Market, in the Commons MPR at 9:30 a.m. There will be an overview of the virus and the current status worldwide, along with information about school plans for virtual learning, etc..

The school will continue to provide regular updates, which will include communication to the community prior to the start of March Break.

Warm Regards,  
David G. Henry  
Director

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