



ALDWICKBURY SCHOOL

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Dear Parents

I do hope that you had an enjoyable Half Term break with your families.

As you are all aware, the situation with regard to Coronavirus is ever changing. Obviously, this raises concerns for us all. I fully understand those concerns, however I wanted to reassure you all that we continue to follow the advice from the DfE, Public Health England and other such bodies, as well as receiving advice from the various independent schools' organisations. This advice guides our decisions as well as the information that we send to parents.

The updated advice from the DfE we received on Tuesday 25th February remains largely the same although there are some additional countries and regions affected; please follow the link if you would like to read the advice in full.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19>

For those who have travelled, or been in contact with people who have travelled, to any of the listed countries the advice, clearly set out below, is to monitor their own health. I would ask if you have travelled to any of the affected areas, including the countries added recently, that you do please inform us. The key advice from the DfE is that we should continue to take sensible measures around our own personal hygiene; we will continue to reiterate this to the boys.

What to do if a person has travelled from any [Category 1 specified country/area](#) (now including areas of Northern Italy) in the past 14 days.

If an individual falls into this category, contact NHS 111 for further advice:

- if they are currently well, they should self-isolate for 14 days and you should follow the advice for contacts of confirmed cases
- if they become unwell please call NHS 111 immediately for them to be assessed by an appropriate specialist. You should follow the advice for contacts of confirmed cases. If they require emergency medical attention, call 999 and tell the call handler or ambulance control that the person has a history of recent travel to risk areas for COVID-19.

.../...

What to do if a person has travelled from a Category 2 specified country/area in the last 14 days

If they are currently well:

- they are advised to self-isolate only if they develop symptoms
- they can continue to attend work or education
- they do not need to avoid contact with other people
- their family do not need to take any precautions or make any changes to their own activities
- testing people with no symptoms for COVID-19 is currently not recommended
- it is useful to always take a mobile phone with them when they go out so that they can contact others if they do become unwell

If they become unwell:

- they should stay indoors and avoid contact with other people as they would with other flu viruses (see this [home isolation advice sheet](#)).
- they (or a family member, colleague or member of staff) should call NHS 111 immediately for them to be assessed by an appropriate specialist, as quickly as possible
- they should stay at home and should not attend work or education
- they should not go directly to their GP or other healthcare environment
- if they require emergency medical attention, call 999 and tell the call handler or ambulance control that the person has a history of recent travel to risk areas for COVID-19
- see [further information](#) and the [Public Health England Blog](#)

We are being advised that the current outbreak is likely to continue to Easter and possibly beyond, therefore travel restrictions and concerns will remain in place or even extend. The Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) provide up to date travel information about the affected regions, the link to the FCO is given below. It is certainly important that we are all mindful of the need to take notice of the advice given by the DfE.

<https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice>

As always, we are grateful for your support, and as you know, the welfare of the boys is always our priority. Should you have any questions then please do not hesitate to contact me.

With best wishes

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Vernon Hales', written over a horizontal line.

Vernon Hales
Headmaster