



# ALDWICKBURY SCHOOL

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3 March 2020

Dear Parents

As we are all aware, the situation in regards to Coronavirus is still evolving, with confirmed cases in Hertfordshire bringing it closer to home. However, it is important that we all continue to react in a measured and proportionate manner. There are obviously some concerns but please rest assured that the boys' welfare is very much at the heart of our decision-making processes. As I have said in previous letters, we continue to follow the advice of the DfE, as well as liaising with the other local schools.

As things stand the advice from the DfE has not changed significantly from my letter last week, I have included the latest link below:

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

Should there be further changes to the advice we receive then we will, of course, pass this on to parents.

As we know, central to the advice that we have sent out is the need for us all to be mindful of our own personal hygiene: the little things make a significant difference. We continue to remind the boys of this; washing hands, coughing and sneezing into elbows and throwing away tissues. Matrons have been talking to the boys in small groups as part of our PSHCEE programme, and we constantly remind the boys about good habits in relation to hygiene.

One of our internal processes which we have amended for the rest of term is that we will not be using our normal water bottles for school fixtures. If boys want to bring in their own water bottle, they may do so on match days and fill them from one of the drinking fountains/taps for the matches. Pre-Prep boys should continue to bring in their own water bottles as normal.

As you would expect we are also taking heed of the Coronavirus updates regarding educational outings. Here again, the advice is that unless there is specific information to the contrary, the trips should go ahead. We will review this for each event and take a view in the light of any changing circumstances. This week the Year 4's are on a history outing to the British Museum.; having looked at the information we intend to go ahead as planned. We will, of course, ensure that we have in place extra appropriate hygiene measures.

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Behind the scenes, we are looking at all contingencies with regards to the running of the School. It is important to remember that the current advice from the DfE is to continue operating as normal. However, we would be remiss if we didn't plan for any increased restrictions or enforced adaptations. Should the situation arise when major alterations were needed we would, of course, ensure you were informed and that the boys' education was not adversely affected.

Thank you for your continued support.

With best wishes

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'V' followed by a horizontal line and a small flourish.

Vernon Hales  
Headmaster