

25 February 2020

**Letter to Parents of all boys who travelled abroad over half-term**

Dear Parents

We are regularly reviewing our communications regarding the Coronavirus and would ask parents to consult government guidance frequently.

[https://www.gov.uk/guidance/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-information-for-the-public?qclid=Cj0KCOiAqNPYBRCjARIsAKA-WFzjKfml6WDrbca\\_FqCqaSJzbLo1ksLmeBNoox5OddAh-2BAYox1cbMaArhDEALw\\_wcB](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-information-for-the-public?qclid=Cj0KCOiAqNPYBRCjARIsAKA-WFzjKfml6WDrbca_FqCqaSJzbLo1ksLmeBNoox5OddAh-2BAYox1cbMaArhDEALw_wcB)

Parents of any boys who did not return to school after the holidays following a trip to any of the countries shown below because of a cough, fever or shortness of breath are asked to follow the Government advice above. We would also ask you to follow this advice if your son subsequently experiences any these symptoms for the next two weeks.

A handful of boys have been collected by parents today, having come back from Italy with coughs and colds; we have asked those parents to follow the above advice, although it is not unusual for boys to have colds at this time of year and particularly when returning from a long journey.

Please keep the school [matron@rgshw.com](mailto:matron@rgshw.com) informed of any conversations that you have with health professionals.

**For ease, I have taken out the relevant government advice (from Gov.uk) overleaf.**

With kindest regards

Marieke Forster  
[hmf@rgshw.com](mailto:hmf@rgshw.com)

**From Gov.uk:**

### **Returning travellers**

Based on the scientific advice of the Scientific Advisory Group for Emergencies (SAGE) the UK Chief Medical Officers are advising anyone who has travelled to the UK from mainland China, Thailand, Japan, Republic of Korea, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Singapore, Malaysia or Macau in the last 14 days and is experiencing cough or fever or shortness of breath, to stay indoors and call NHS 111, even if symptoms are mild.

We are carrying out enhanced monitoring of direct flights from these areas. Passengers will be told how to report any symptoms they develop during the flight, at the time of arrival, or after leaving the airport.

These areas have been identified because of the volume of air travel from affected areas, understanding of other travel routes and number of reported cases. This list will be kept under review.

If you have returned from these specific areas since February 19, you should call NHS111 and stay indoors and avoid contact with other people even if you do not have symptoms:

- Iran
- Specific lockdown areas in Northern Italy as designated by the Government of Italy
- Special care zones in South Korea as designated by the Government of the Republic of South Korea
- Hubei province (returned in the past 14 days)

If you have returned from these areas since February 19th and develop symptoms, however mild, you should stay indoors at home and avoid contact with other people immediately and call NHS111. You do not need to follow this advice if you have no symptoms.

- Northern Italy (defined by a line above, and not including, Pisa, Florence and Rimini)
- Vietnam
- Cambodia
- Laos
- Myanmar