

**Epsom college**

We are monitoring events and taking advice from colleagues at Public Health England (PHE), as well as the College Medical Officer. We are also in contact with the Boarding Schools Association.

**We have no pupils from the affected regions in mainland China, and we are not aware of any guests due to visit the College from the area.**

**10.02**

As you may be aware, the UK Government this morning raised its classification of coronavirus and the UK's Chief Medical Officers have updated their guidance relating to the outbreak. This follows news of four new cases being reported within the UK, and a number of the victims having contracted the virus in Singapore.

The government is now urging anyone who experiences a cough, fever, or shortness of breath within 14 days of returning to the UK from the following countries to quarantine themselves:

- China
- Thailand
- Japan
- Republic of Korea
- Hong Kong
- Taiwan
- Singapore
- Malaysia
- Macau

**Our Advice to Parents and Pupils**

We would now urge all families carefully to consider their travel plans for the Easter holiday (27 March-19 April). We would advise against travel to any of the affected countries listed above, and would urge families in those countries not to travel to the UK.

We cannot quarantine pupils at the College, and families would have to make their own arrangements should they or their children become unwell.

Pupils who need to be quarantined risk missing 14 days of school in the Summer Term, ahead of important public exams. Therefore we would urge against the risk of letting Easter travel plans negatively impact your child's education.

**Visitors to the College**

In order to minimise any risk to our pupils, all planned visits to the College from guests from the affected countries listed above have been postponed. This will remain the case until advice from the Government and its Chief Medical Officers changes.

**25.02**

As you will be aware the Government this morning (25 February) updated its guidance relating to the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak. This has been issued in response to further outbreaks over the past few days, and now covers new countries and regions.

Public Health England (PHE) guidance is that if any of the below applies to you, you should:

- stay indoors and avoid contact with other people, as you would with the flu
- call NHS 111 to inform them of your recent travel to the area

You should immediately self-isolate – even if you do not have symptoms

If you have returned in the past 14 days from: Hubei province

If you have returned since Wednesday 19 February from:

Lockdown areas in Northern Italy. These currently are:

- Codogno
- Castiglione d'Adda
- Casalpusterlengo
- Fombio
- Maleo
- Somaglia
- Bertonico
- Terranova dei Passerini
- Castelgerundo
- San Fiorano
- Vo' Euganeo
- Iran

'Special care zones' in South Korea, which are:

- Daegu
- Cheongdo

You should self-isolate if you develop symptoms – however mild

If you have returned since Wednesday February 19 from:

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

	<p>Cambodia Laos Myanmar</p> <p>If you have returned in the last 14 days:</p> <p>China Thailand Japan Republic of Korea Hong Kong Taiwan Singapore Malaysia Macau</p> <p><b>Planning for the Easter Holidays</b> Easter Holidays start at 3.15pm on 27 March, with boarders returning to the school from 7pm, on Sunday 19 April.</p> <p>As per the advice in previous emails, we would urge all families not to travel to or from the ‘affected areas’. We cannot isolate/quarantine at Epsom College, and there is a risk that pupils who self-isolate will miss important parts of their education as we enter the public examinations in the Summer Term.</p> <p>Our Housemasters and Housemistresses are monitoring their wellbeing, and endeavouring to ensure they are not unduly worried. Any pupils who have concerns are being offered help: whether that is just a friendly chat with Matron, their tutor, or more focused support via our School Counsellor or the College’s extensive Pastoral Support team.</p> <p>We would reiterate that we are unable to isolate pupils onsite, and if any child develops symptoms once back in the UK their isolation would have to be arranged by parents, family members or guardians.</p> <p>We would urge all parents living overseas to plan for the worst- case scenario and, accordingly, make arrangements for your child to be accommodated within the UK over the Easter Holidays.</p> <p>Please also exercise caution around traveling to the UK from overseas, and consider the potential disruption and inconvenience to yourself and your child.</p> <p>If you do plan to be in the UK over Easter, we would insist that you arrive at least 14 days before your child is due to return to the College for the start of Summer Term. For clarity, terms starts Monday 20 April, meaning you would need to arrive in the UK no later than Sunday 5 April.</p> <p>If your son or daughter does need to be isolated, they will not be allowed back at Epsom College until the 14-day quarantine is over. We are about to enter a crucial time of the academic year, when public examinations take place. Two weeks’ absence could prove costly.</p> <p>If you do intend to travel, please inform your child’s Housemaster or Housemistress at the earliest opportunity. We have a duty of care to all 950 pupils at Epsom, and an awareness of where pupils will be helps us to ensure their health and wellbeing.</p> <p>As ever, we appreciate your support and understanding at this time. If you would like to discuss further, or have additional questions, please do feel free to get in touch.</p>
<b>Rugby school</b>	<p>As you are aware, it is a dynamic situation and we are receiving regular updates from Public Health England and from our own Medical Officer. Our Medical Officer has assured staff and students that no student currently in the School is at risk of having contracted the virus.</p> <p>Advice regarding travel abroad over half term and Easter would be to consider avoiding countries and regions significantly affected by the coronavirus and we would recommend avoiding travel to high-risk areas unless absolutely necessary. The Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) is a source of travel advice; of relevance is that if they recommend not travelling to a region then insurance companies will accept this as a legitimate reason to cancel travel arrangements. The Foreign and Commonwealth Office is at <a href="http://www.gov.uk/FCO">www.gov.uk/FCO</a>.</p> <p>Importantly, we ask that any student or staff member who plan to travel to an affected region informs the School prior to their travel. Equally, any parents visiting the UK from a high-risk areas should not come to the School. Any student who has visited a high-risk area will not be allowed to return to Rugby until they have been asymptomatic in the UK for 14 days. Any student who has been in contact with a parent from a high-risk area will not be allowed to return to Rugby until they have been asymptomatic in the UK for 14 days. Students resident overseas should review their guardian arrangements in case they need to spend an extended period with guardians at this time.</p> <p>Visits to the School from prospective families and others will be subject to strict background checking and anyone who has been in a high-risk area will not be permitted to visit the School unless they have been asymptomatic and in the UK for two weeks prior to the visit.</p> <p>Please note we wish to treat all students and staff equally irrespective of their country of origin and we will continue to act in the best interests of all of the students and staff at Rugby.</p>
<b>Caterham school</b>	<p><b>Coronavirus Update for Parents and Guardians of Overseas Boarders</b> We continue to monitor developments closely, following the advice of the World Health Organisation (WHO)</p>

	<p>and Public Health England (PHE) to ensure we respond effectively to safeguard the health of pupils and staff. Latest advice from WHO and PHE is that only essential travel to the Far East should now take place and, if our pupils have contact with friends or family who are travelling from the Far East to see them in the UK or Europe over half term, they may well be subject to quarantine before being permitted to return to school, even if the family and friends they meet have not shown symptoms.</p> <p>Based on the current evidence from WHO and PHE there is no immediate cause for concern – however, we are taking the following precautions:</p> <p>Confirming whether any planned visitor to the school has been in China, particularly the Wuhan region, since the outbreak;</p> <p>Accepting no visitors from the affected regions until the outbreak is contained (the Foreign and Commonwealth Office currently advises against travel to Hubei Province);</p> <p>Any pupil, parent or visitor who has travelled to or been in direct contact with anyone from a coronavirus-affected area may be asked to remain at home to prevent the potential spread of the virus;</p> <p>We have advised parents and guardians of our overseas boarding pupils to make arrangements for children to stay in the UK over half term if they were intending to return to China or Hong Kong.</p> <p>All parents and guardians please note, and take the following actions as appropriate:</p> <p>Please inform us if your child has come into direct contact with anyone who has travelled from a coronavirus-affected area, via an email to the Health Centre: <a href="mailto:Health.Centre@caterhamschool.co.uk">Health.Centre@caterhamschool.co.uk</a>;</p> <p>Similarly, as half term approaches, we have ask that any pupil or family who intends to travel to/from, or have direct contact with anyone from, a coronavirus-affected area, to inform us immediately via an email to the Health Centre.</p>
<b>Stowe</b>	<p><b>Any child, parent or visitor who has travelled to or been in direct contact with anyone from a Novel Coronavirus affected region is asked to remain away from Stowe for at least 14 days to prevent the potential spread of the virus.</b></p> <p>From today, we will no longer receive any visitors from mainland China or Hong Kong until the threat from the virus is lifted.</p> <p>Medical Centre staff and Houseparents are monitoring the situation daily. All staff and pupils, will be briefed on the signs and symptoms of the Novel Coronavirus. According to <a href="http://fitfortravel.nhs.uk">fitfortravel.nhs.uk</a>, "coronaviruses are a family of viruses that can cause a range of illnesses, from the common cold to more severe infections like <a href="http://MERS-CoV">MERS-CoV</a> and SARS (severe acute respiratory syndrome)".</p> <p>Stoics will be told that they should not stay with or visit family or friends who have been in any of the affected areas in the previous 14 days.</p> <p>At present, none of our pupils has confirmed travel plans to visit China or Hong Kong over half term; if any Stoic does visit China or Hong Kong over half term, he/she will not be able to return to Stowe for at least 14 days after his/her return to the UK. This is a straightforward precautionary measure in line with the best scientific and expert advice on how to stop the Novel Coronavirus from spreading. As more countries succumb to the virus, this list of countries affected by the travel ban/quarantine may be expanded.</p> <p>The latest update from the NHS can be found here <a href="http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/wuhan-novel-coronavirus">www.nhs.uk/conditions/wuhan-novel-coronavirus</a>.</p>
<b>Port Regis</b>	<p>I can assure you that we are constantly assessing the potential risks of this evolving situation and are closely monitoring the information coming through reliable sources such as Public Health England (PHE), the National Health Service (NHS), the World Health Organisation (WHO) and the Boarding Schools Association (BSA).</p> <p>We are taking the following precautions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- We are receiving no pupils or visitors who have recently travelled from affected regions and will continue to do this until the outbreak is contained and/or we receive different advice from the UK's public health agencies.</li> <li>- All staff are being briefed on the signs and symptoms of the Coronavirus.</li> <li>- The Health Centre staff have a protocol in place should any individual show signs of suspected Coronavirus.</li> <li>- Please be aware that none of our pupils who live in China are returning home for the half term break.</li> <li>- We ask that any pupil or family intending to travel to or from a Coronavirus affected area informs us immediately. The Foreign and Commonwealth Office currently advises against all travel to Hubei Province, China.</li> <li>- Although we do not know how the situation will develop, it is important to say that pupils who do travel to an affected area at half term may be prohibited from travelling back to the UK as part of measures to limit the spread of the virus.</li> </ul>
<b>Kings School, Canterbury</b>	<p>The King's School, Canterbury will continue to monitor very carefully the outbreak of this virus and to follow to the letter any advice from Public Health England and the Department for Health and Social Care.</p>
<b>Ashford school</b>	<p>Please be assured that we are monitoring the evolving situation closely and will follow the advice given by the Health Protection Agency and Public Health England, particularly with regard to travel as the half-term break approaches.</p> <p>We will issue a further update once the recommendations and guidelines to schools such as ours have been confirmed. You may also like to follow this link to the Health Protection Agency: <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/public-health-england">https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/public-health-england</a></p>

<p><b>Queen Ethelburga's</b></p>	<p>At present, we are noting travel arrangements for all of our students for the forthcoming half term holiday and, of course and more particularly, any students who may be travelling outside the normal term time schedule. Fortunately, we have only a very small number of students from the mainly affected area, but we are liaising with their families already to avoid risks arising from their travel arrangements.</p> <p>We have a significant amount of experience in dealing with issues of this sort following the drawing up of detailed procedures during previous outbreaks of Bird Flu and the SARS virus, which were similar situations to the one faced at present. These procedures involved such measures as:</p> <p>Having quarantine arrangements for students who had been in infected areas such that they were not allowed onto campus until the period of incubation of the virus had passed and the students had shown no symptoms.</p> <p>Requiring students not to visit infected areas if they wished to avoid a quarantine requirement away from the campus.</p> <p>Obligatory twice daily temperature checks for students and isolation if students had symptoms that could be associated with the virus, as an additional precaution.</p>
<p><b>Gordonstoun</b></p>	<p>The school has experienced medical staff on campus who work closely with Public Health Scotland to ensure we are fully aware of the national situation and to provide us with advice. The school is taking advice from the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office on the travel situation and we will take the appropriate steps to ensure that the wellbeing of our students is protected at all times.</p> <p><b>28/02</b></p> <p>As a result of the global Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak, we at Gordonstoun are doing everything we can to keep our community safe.</p> <p>Since I last updated you the number of countries affected by the outbreak has increased. The list of specified countries has expanded to include: China, Hong Kong, Japan, Macau, Malaysia, Thailand, Taiwan, South Korean, Singapore, Italy and Iran.</p> <p>The School has experienced medical staff on campus but we are not a medical authority, therefore we are continuing to liaise on a daily basis with public health agencies for medical advice and with the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) for the latest advice on travel restrictions.</p> <p>The latest advice can be found here:</p> <p><a href="https://www.gov.uk/guidance/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-information-for-the-public">https://www.gov.uk/guidance/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-information-for-the-public</a>  <a href="https://www.gov.uk/guidance/travel-advice-novel-coronavirus">https://www.gov.uk/guidance/travel-advice-novel-coronavirus</a>  <a href="https://www.gov.scot/news/coronavirus-becomes-notifiable-disease-in-scotland/">https://www.gov.scot/news/coronavirus-becomes-notifiable-disease-in-scotland/</a></p> <p>Gordonstoun is taking particular care to follow national advice regarding visitors to school. We have educated students on the importance of good hand hygiene, and have made hand sanitisers available throughout our campus to help prevent the spread of germs.</p> <p>We are committed to supporting every child and family affected by the travel disruption. Our Chinese and Hong Kong students did not travel home at half term and they are either taking part in a holiday programme arranged by the School or are staying with friends or family, avoiding the need to return home at Easter while the situation remains uncontained; our Italian families are also carefully assessing their options.</p> <p>I would ask all our families to carefully consider their travel plans for Easter and in particular to take into account the travel risks for students who are due to sit GCSEs or A Levels next term and the implication for them of travel restrictions being expanded and a self-isolation period being required before they can return to school.</p> <p>If you are concerned about your child travelling at Easter, the School is happy to make arrangements for them to take part in our holiday programme.</p> <p>For students who will sit GCSEs and A levels next term, the Gordonstoun Easter revision course is taking place during the holidays and this can be included as part of the wider holiday programme:</p> <p><a href="https://activerrevision.org.uk/">https://activerrevision.org.uk/</a></p>
<p><b>Clifton college</b></p>	<p>The UK's Chief Medical Officers have also stated that the change to the status of risk does not mean the risk to individuals in the UK has changed at this stage, but rather reflects their belief that the government should plan for all eventualities.</p> <p>I am able to confirm that no Clifton pupils reside within Wuhan or the wider Hubei province and all Clifton pupils who were abroad over the Christmas break have now been resident at Clifton for a time that is safely outside the incubation period. Furthermore, the College has been in touch with the parents and guardians of all of our pupils who reside in mainland China to discuss their travel plans for half term. I can confirm that no Clifton pupils are travelling to mainland China this half term.</p> <p>The situation is likely to continue to restrict movement up until the Easter break. As such, all international boarding families should remain in regular contact with their guardians to ensure that they are able to provide appropriate care at short notice. The College reminds parents that we strongly recommend using an AEGIS accredited guardians, as AEGIS are the only independent body in the UK offering an inspection and accreditation service for guardians.</p> <p>A number of other precautionary measures have been formulated in collaboration with the College's Medical Officer and are ready to be implemented should they be needed in the light of a change in official guidance.</p> <p>If you have any further concerns or would like to discuss the College's response, in the first instance please get</p>

	<p>in touch with your child's Housemaster/Housemistress or, for Butcombe, their classroom teacher.</p>
<p><b>St Peter's York</b></p>	<p>Following guidelines from UK Foreign Office and Public Health England, we have written to all parents resident in China and Hong Kong advising against pupils travelling to those territories this half term.</p> <p>Any pupil who does travel to China over half term or who comes into close contact with someone who has recently been in China will be quarantined for 14 days before returning to school. Quarantine arrangements will be made by parents and guardians with the school being kept informed.</p> <p>We realise how much disappointment this will cause pupils who had planned to visit family and friends over half term and that they will be worried about the situation. We are ensuring that they receive the best possible care and attention.</p> <p>All visitors to the school from China will be made aware of the following guidance prior to their visit.</p>
<p><b>St Clare's, Oxford</b></p>	<p>The UK government guidelines state: "Based on the scientific advice of 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."</p> <p>For this very reason, parents travelling from the above mentioned countries, students travelling there, and students meeting parents who have travelled from there should arrange to self-isolate in the UK for two weeks before returning to College.</p> <p>We strongly advise people not to travel to high risk countries, either during half-term or during the Easter break. If students do so, they and their parents will be responsible for finding accommodation for the two week period of self-isolation. Students cannot self-isolate in St Clare's accommodation. For students in IB20, self-isolation could have serious consequences for their ability to sit IB examinations as the first paper takes place on 1 May 2020. It is our and the students' responsibility not to place their own and other students' examination performance at risk. The safety of our college community is always our primary concern.</p> <p>As you are aware, the situation and guidance relating to this outbreak are changing dynamically so we strongly advise all parents and guardians to keep checking the latest updates on a daily basis and plan accordingly. This includes planning for the forthcoming Easter holiday.</p> <p><a href="https://www.gov.uk/guidance/travel-advice-novel-coronavirus">https://www.gov.uk/guidance/travel-advice-novel-coronavirus</a>  <a href="https://www.gov.uk/guidance/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-information-for-the-public">https://www.gov.uk/guidance/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-information-for-the-public</a>  <a href="https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/situation-reports/">https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/situation-reports/</a></p>
<p><b>Wycliffe College</b></p>	<p>As many of you will already know, the UK media revealed yesterday that there has been a confirmed case of Covid-19 at St. Mary's Tetbury (a primary school some 30 minutes away from Wycliffe). What you might not know is that the Headteacher of St. Mary's Tetbury is Mrs. Jo Woolley (the wife of our Senior Deputy Head, Mr. Peter Woolley). All people who had direct contact early last week with the person now known to have had the virus are being required to self-isolate for 14 days and Mrs. Woolley is amongst them.</p> <p>Whilst Public Health England's stance is that Mr. Woolley may carry on as normal, since he himself has had no direct contact with the person concerned and is wholly symptom-free, I have requested that for the moment - and probably for the entirety of the week ahead - Mr. Woolley should not come into school. I hope this seems a sensible precaution to have taken.</p> <p>Your child(ren) has/have been informed about this earlier today and we do appreciate that some of our pupils might be inclined to feel anxious about the fact that we have a couple of cases within Gloucestershire itself. Please be assured that we are doing all that we can to support and reassure them and to encourage the Wycliffe community to keep an appropriate sense of perspective about the situation.</p>