



Thursday 27th February 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

RE: Coronavirus (COVID-19)

As you will be aware, the situation regarding the Coronavirus is changing daily, as is the advice being provided by Public Health England and the DfE. In addition to the previously identified areas of concern, Northern Italy has become an area where the virus is spreading. As this is a regular destination for UK tourists, we would like to share the most recent guidance. Please note that the Government's guidance periodically changes and could change more than once in a 24-hour period, the Department of Health and Social Care will be publishing updated data on the below link* every day at 2pm, we will endeavour to update you as soon as a change is implemented however; please continue to check the relevant websites for immediate information.

* <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-information-for-the-public>

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

We received new information regarding the Coronavirus (COVID-19) from Public Health England for person/s who have returned from Northern Italy in the last 15 days; specifically, the regions of Veneto and Lombardy.

Latest information as of Wednesday 26th February 2020:

- Any person who has returned from Northern Italy since 19th February 2020 should contact NHS 111 to check whether they have been to any of the 'lock down' towns.
- If they have been to one of these lock down towns, the current advice is to self-isolate for 14 days. They should not attend school.
- Any person who has returned from other areas of Northern Italy, since 19th February 2020, who is displaying the symptoms of the Coronavirus (listed below), should self-isolate and contact NHS 111 (selecting option 2).
- If you have been in Northern Italy, but not to one of the lock-down towns and do not have any symptoms, you should attend school as normal.

Please refer to guidance from Public Health England for returning travellers:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-specified-countries-and-areas/covid-19-specified-countries-and-areas-with-implications-for-returning-travellers-or-visitors-arriving-in-the-uk>

We have been told that there is no evidence that anyone who has been in Northern Italy is contagious, unless they have symptoms listed below:

Coronavirus Symptoms:

- Experiencing a cough
- Flu-like symptoms including a fever
- Shortness of breath

The Government website also states the: *'the current evidence is that most cases appear to be mild. Those who have died in Wuhan appear to have had pre-existing health conditions.'*

Should you have any questions or concerns please follow the guidance given or contact NHS 111.

Yours sincerely

Louise Wilson

CEO St. Thérèse of Lisieux Catholic Multi Academy Trust

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