



**The Winstanley School**



Widening Horizons | Enabling Excellence

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### **Advice to parents, carers and staff at Winstanley School regarding the Coronavirus (Covid-19)**

Parents, carers and staff will be increasingly aware of the press and social media coverage of the Covid-19 outbreak; in particular with the rise in cases from Northern Italy. It must be remembered, that the total number of cases worldwide is a very tiny fraction of the global population and even on contracting the virus the vast majority of people will make a full and rapid recovery. Overall the risk to health is low. Nevertheless we all know older members of our community or those who are immunocompromised.

Hence, we have a responsibility to do two things:

1. Play our part in helping slow the spread of this illness where we can (see the advice about hygiene on the second page)
2. Protect the mental health of the young people we care for by ensuring they do not become unduly anxious

Consequently we reiterate the current national advice if you have travelled abroad over half term:

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.

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



**Executive Head** Chris Parkinson. **Head of School** Dave Bennett. **Deputy Head of School** Fiona Le Cras.

**Assistant Heads of School** Wesley Collins. Annabel Roberts. Jason Scrimshire

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**At the same time, we need to reassure the young people in our care that the risks to them are no more severe than existing risks that we all take for granted. Such risks include travelling by car, seasonal flu, or riding a bike.**

If you are uncertain if you need to take action or concerned about your own possible exposure please contact us in school for advice. Further advice from the government can be found with the following link:

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

### **Encouraging Good Hygiene Habits at The Winstanley School**

It is important that we all encourage good hygiene habits and we have placed additional posters in our toilet facilities to remind students of the importance of washing their hands thoroughly. Please reinforce this at home to prevent the spread of germs.

As always, if students have symptoms of a cold or flu, then there are measures you can take to stop germs:

- Always carry tissues with you and use them to catch your cough or sneeze. Then bin the tissue, and wash your hands, or use a sanitiser gel
- Wash your hands often with soap and water, especially after using public transport. Use a sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands
- If they feel unwell:
  - Stay at home and call school to explain the reason for absence as you normally would
  - Call NHS 111 if you're worried about their symptoms