



## LEIGHTON PARK

FOUNDED 1890

Dear Parents and Guardians,

RE: Coronavirus update – 11th March, 2020

We are tracking the escalation of the Covid-19 virus outbreak closely. We are aware that the UK Government is considering many measures in response to the continued rise in cases and are planning carefully to adapt to these different scenarios.

Our screening now applies to the whole of Italy and an additional area in South Korea, although in light of recent communications from the authorities this may change significantly in the next week. Travel advice regarding different countries that we are taking can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/travel-advice-novel-coronavirus>

Further information and recommended precautions regarding the virus are provided at the end of this communication.

### Easter holidays

ALL families are asked to think carefully about travel plans during the Easter Holiday. Current guidance is only to limit travel to the high-incidence locations but this is highly likely to change and the guidance to self-isolate for fourteen days could be expanded to cover more locations, indeed, could be extended to all travel, potentially causing your child to miss School.

**This is particularly pertinent to students in exam years, with many students scheduled to take exams early in the Summer Term.**

The families and guardians of our overseas boarding students are being contacted separately to ensure adequate arrangements and support are in place for their care during the Easter holidays and afterwards.

### Visitors to the School

Visitors to the School continue to be screened to reduce the risk of the virus being brought into our community. People that have visited affected areas, have been in contact with any confirmed cases in the UK or who are feeling unwell are not permitted to come onto the Park.



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## Future Planning

The School is working hard behind the scenes to plan ahead should the the authorities instruct schools to close. This will include provision for your children's education, using remote learning tools, such as video-conferencing software and the Google Classroom.

Further details and instructions will follow in due course, but please be assured that we are preparing for all eventualities, in difficult circumstances.

The School will continue to work proactively to safeguard the health and safety of our community and I would like to thank families for their ongoing support. We will continue to follow advice.

We will update you regularly to provide reassurance and ask that if you have any specific medical questions that you contact the Health Centre [healthcentre@leightonpark.com](mailto:healthcentre@leightonpark.com) or if you have a more general enquiry to contact me via [edwardfalshaw@leightonpark.com](mailto:edwardfalshaw@leightonpark.com).

With best wishes,

Eddie Falshaw

Deputy Head



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## Further Information

### Virus Information

We continue to ask that parents and carers speak to the Health Centre [healthcentre@leightonpark.com](mailto:healthcentre@leightonpark.com) if their children present flu-like symptoms or if they have any concerns.

The symptoms of coronavirus are:

- a cough
- a high temperature
- shortness of breath.

These symptoms are similar to other illnesses, such as cold and flu, so are not in themselves a cause for alarm. However, in order to protect our School community we ask that any day students presenting symptoms be kept at home and that families report these symptoms to NHS 111, follow their advice and to inform your child's tutor at the earliest opportunity. We will closely monitor the health of our boarding students.

The World Health Organisation report that only 2.4% of all reported cases have been in children and of those 97.5% have only presented mild symptoms.

Students that feel well, and have not been to Iran, Italy, special care zones in South Korea or Hubei province in China ([Find further details and maps here](#)) are welcome in School as normal.

### Sensible precautions

We continue to speak to the whole School community to offer reassurance and are encouraging everyone to follow NHS advice:

- cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze
- put used tissues in the bin immediately



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- wash your hands with soap and water often – use hand sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available
- try to avoid close contact with people who are unwell
- do not touch your eyes, nose or mouth if your hands are not clean.

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**[www.leightonpark.com](http://www.leightonpark.com)**

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