27/02/2020

**Coronavirus concerns – Update**

Further to my letter yesterday I have the following update.

The children that were sent home yesterday have shown no signs of sickness and although they visited Northern Italy, they did not visit any of the lockdown areas (see below) and so we have asked them to return to school.

The guidance sent out yesterday still stands and anyone returning from the following areas since 19 February should stay indoors and avoid contact with other people even if you do not have symptoms:

* Iran
* Lockdown areas in northern Italy; (Lombardy: Codogno, Castiglione d’Adda, Casalpusterlengo, Fombio, Maleo, Somaglia, Bertonico, Terranova dei Passerini, Castelgerundo and San Fiorano and in Veneto: Vo’ Euganeo)
* [‘special care zones’ in South Korea](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-information-for-the-public#lockdown-areas) as designated by the Government of the Republic of South Korea
* Hubei province (returned in the past 14 days)

Anyone returning from:

Mainland China, Thailand, Japan, Republic of Korea, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Singapore, Malaysia, Macau, northern Italy (anywhere north of Pisa, Florence and Rimini), Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos and Myanmar in the last 14 days are free to go about day-to-day tasks unless they are experiencing cough or fever or shortness of breath. Then they are to call NHS 111, even if symptoms are mild.

The situation is fluid, with new instructions announced every-day and we will continue to keep you updated, however, school is open as usual.

We have been made aware of a number of comments made over social media regarding the children and families of those who visited northern Italy. These are highly inappropriate. Many families travelled over half-term and anyone of us could have come into contact with a number of infectious diseases and to insinuate that parents have purposely put your children at risk is disgraceful.

If you, or your child, have any further concerns or questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school.