



Blackfen School for Girls

Raising aspirations - releasing potential

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February 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Coronavirus Advice for Schools from Public Health England

We have been asked to send you information regarding the public health issue of Coronavirus that I am sure you are aware of in the press. There is no risk to schools at the moment and indeed none at our school.

You should not be unduly worried about the possibility of your children catching the Coronavirus. There is no reason why your children should not continue to attend their school as normal.

The government is closely monitoring the spread of the Coronavirus and is taking action at home and abroad.

The overall risk of Coronavirus to the UK remains moderate. However, we understand that people may be concerned where there are children, students of staff returning from or visiting China.

We recognise that some families or children may be planning to travel to China during the forthcoming half term period. If so, please refer to the FCO's latest travel advice via the link below.

Public Health England and the Foreign Office have issued advice for anyone travelling to the area. This can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice/china>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/novel-coronavirus-and-avian-flu-advice-for-travel-to-china>

A UK wide campaign has been launched to provide clear advice on how to slow the spread of Coronavirus. Please help to support the campaign which promotes basic hygiene practices, such as regularly washing hands and always sneezing into a tissue, to stem the spread of viruses.

The Government and NHS are well prepared to deal with this virus and the advice to protect yourself and others is:

- Always carry tissues with you and use them to catch your cough or sneeze.
- Bin the tissue, and to kill the germs, wash your hands with soap and water, or use a sanitiser gel.
- If you have arrived back from China within 14 days follow specific advice for returning travellers.

This is the best way to slow the spread of almost any germs, including Coronavirus. You can find out more information at www.gov.uk/coronavirus.

Please rest assured that the school will follow all public health advice.

Yours sincerely

Matthew Brown
Head Teacher

