



SEDBERGH
SCHOOL

FOUNDED 1525

Sedbergh Schools' response to the risk presented by Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV)

Statement No 2 issued on 11 February 2020

I write with a further update relating to the Novel Coronavirus. We continue to monitor the situation regularly through World Health Organisation (WHO) bulletins, the Foreign & Commonwealth Office (FCO), Public Health England (PHE) and the Boarding Schools' Association (BSA). In particular, we are receiving regular bulletins from the Medical Officers of Schools Association (MOSA). Our priority continues to be the health of all members of the School community and the provision of support for those who may be affected by the spread of the virus.

Since I last wrote, the Chief Medical Officers of the United Kingdom have raised the risk to individuals in the UK from Low to Moderate and the Foreign & Commonwealth Office has advised against all but essential travel to China. Government guidance has extended beyond China to include a list of countries which have extensive travel links with China and therefore carry an elevated risk of transmission. This includes Thailand, Japan, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Malaysia, Macau. That guidance requires individuals who travel from those countries to self-isolate and seek medical help immediately if they have any flu-like symptoms such as a cold, fever, headache or sore throat.

The spread of the virus means that we have revised our guidance to parents as follows:

Areas of High Risk are defined as China, Hong Kong and Taiwan.

- Sedbergh will not allow any staff to travel to high risk areas on School business, nor allow any visitors, including parents and recruitment Agents, to visit the School from those areas unless they have completed a 14 day quarantine period.
- Pupils are advised not to travel to high risk areas during Lent Half Term and the Easter holiday. They should remain in Britain and stay with a Guardian.
- Adults or pupils who do travel to a high risk area will be required to undergo a 14 day quarantine period before return to Sedbergh.

.../cont'd

Areas of elevated risk are defined as Thailand, Japan, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Malaysia, Macau.

- Pupils must advise the School if they intend to visit any of these countries and may be required to complete a 14 day quarantine period before returning to Sedbergh.

All areas of high and elevated risk

- Adults who have visited these areas recently and who interact with any member of the School must advise the School urgently if they develop flu-like symptoms within 14 days of visiting a risk area.

It is likely that restrictions will still be in place at Easter, and everyone must now plan for that eventuality. Immediately after Half Term we will ask all pupils, irrespective of nationality or home location for their travel plans to be provided to the Housemasters and Housemistresses by 28 February. Those who plan to travel to identified risk areas or to meet people from those areas must provide details of the dates of travel or interaction so that we can assess the risk to the School and issue appropriate guidance.

I am extremely grateful to everyone for your ongoing support and engagement at this difficult time. I shall continue to update you as the situation develops.

Andrew Fleck
Principal

11 February 2020

Sedbergh School
Sedbergh, Cumbria
LA10 5HG

Tel 015396 20535
www.sedberghschool.org