



THE  
KING'S  
HOSPITAL  
SCHOOL

26/2/2020

Dear Parent and Guardian

The Department of Education and Skills has updated information for schools, on Covid-19; provided by the Department of Health and HSE Health Protection Surveillance Centre and following a meeting of the National Public Health Emergency Team.

As this is a dynamic situation with the number of countries affected evolving, anyone who has been to affected regions in the last 14 days **and** has a cough, shortness of breath, breathing difficulties or fever, should self-isolate and phone their GP immediately.

As of February 26<sup>th</sup> the Covid-19 affected regions are listed as; mainland China, South Korea, Japan, Singapore, Hong Kong, Iran and the following regions of northern Italy - Lombardy, Veneto Emilia-Romagna and Piedmont.

The most important action we can take to protect ourselves from Covid-19 is regular hand-washing with soap and water, and good respiratory hygiene. Pump-action hand sanitisers are also available throughout the school campus.

As a boarding school, we have a diverse population of students, with some of their families living outside Ireland. Therefore, we have to consider the travel arrangements of all students, over the Easter holiday period. In this regard we are taking guidance from the [DES](#), [HSE](#), and the [Department of Foreign Affairs](#). We will give as much advance notice as possible to families and guardians for students who have travel plans during this time. and may have to remain in Ireland instead.

The School would like to reassure parents and visitors about the precautions our school community is taking around the spread of the Covid-19, using practical advice from our School Doctor - Dr Robert Nelson, and nursing team. All staff have been briefed on the signs and symptoms of Covid-19, and we have procedures in place for providing isolation, should this become necessary. A contingency plan is being drafted, in the event that a staff member or student becomes ill with Covid-19.

Since the end of January, we have restricted access to the school by visitors from a primarily affected region and will continue to do so. Any member of the school community that has travelled to a recently affected region should follow the advice on the [HSE](#) website and be aware of the symptoms of Covid-19.

We will continue to keep you informed as the situation and official advice changes. Should you wish to discuss any of the above, please do not hesitate to contact the School through my PA, [Lorraine Walker](#). We would also appreciate that you advise us, if a family member or friend becomes ill with Covid-19, and has been in contact with your child recently.

Yours sincerely

Mark Ronan

Headmaster / Principal