



CANSFIELD

ACHIEVING EXCELLENCE TOGETHER

February 2020

Dear Parent /Carer,

You may be aware that during half term the school visited Northern Italy on a ski trip. The trip **did not** visit any of the towns currently in lockdown. All staff and pupils were medically screened on entry to Milan airport.

Following advice from Wigan Council we would like to reassure all parents by issuing the following information:

The advice from the DoE changes as new information is issued by the Health Protection England who have responsibility for medical matters.

The latest advice from the government is that anyone who has visited the Northern areas of Italy should isolate themselves **if they show symptoms** of the Coronavirus, contact their GP by phone but do not visit the surgery.

The school will monitor the potential symptoms within the pupil and staff populations, in particular those who travelled on the ski trip, although we are still in the winter season where viruses are common and the four basic symptoms are the same as the common cold or flu.

The advice to parents is they contact their GP in the first instance and if they are one of the group who travelled to Italy or one of the affected areas and, **if they show symptoms**, to make this known to the medical professionals and inform the school.

Within school we will promote good hygiene practice:

- Frequent hand washing of the hands including the nails.
- If sneezing, blow into a handkerchief or disposable tissue then wash your hands again.
- Increase cleaning of all furniture surfaces, door handles, equipment that is handled.

We will regularly check the DoE/HPE websites for additional advice.

It is important to recognise that the risk of catching Coronavirus is minimal. Self isolation is only required if you have visited the areas identified and **show symptoms**:

The following symptoms may develop in the 14 days after exposure to someone who has COVID-19 infection:

- cough
- difficulty in breathing
- fever

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Generally, these infections can cause more severe symptoms in people with weakened immune systems, older people, and those with long-term conditions like diabetes, cancer and chronic lung disease. There is no evidence that children are more affected than other age groups – very few cases have been reported in children.

If we are issued with any further advice we will keep you informed. If you have any concerns please do not hesitate to contact me at d.sutch@cansfield.wigan.sch.uk.

Yours sincerely

Mrs D Sutch
Business Manager

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