



13th March 2020

Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s)

Coronavirus (COVID-19) update

Cancellation of foreign visits

Yesterday evening the Government issued a statement **advising against all international school trips** with immediate effect. This means that, regrettably, we cannot proceed with the foreign visits which are scheduled to take place in the foreseeable future. The Government has not indicated how long this advice will be in place and we are therefore unable to re-schedule any of these trips at this stage. We understand that this will be very disappointing news for those students who were due to take part in these visits.

Given that we run such an unusually high number of foreign visits each year, this news undoubtedly affects Prince Henry's more than most schools across the country, with over 400 of our students scheduled to visit France, Spain, Germany, Belgium, Poland and South Africa in the next few months alone. We are now awaiting further advice with regards to recovering costs, submitting insurance claims, etc. We are also unsure at this stage what effect, if any, this may have on those trips which are due to take place in the school year 2020/2021.

We would respectfully ask that parents/carers do NOT contact school to ask for further details, as we have no further information at this time, and those members of staff who have been organising these opportunities are now busy communicating with tour companies, venues etc. Please be assured that we will contact those parents/carers concerned as soon as possible when we have more information.

For clarity, **this advice does not affect any UK-based trips at this time** (e.g. Year 8 Kingswood residential, Music Tour to London, DofE Expeditions, etc).

Updated advice regarding coronavirus symptoms

Yesterday's Government statement also included updated advice on what action you should take if you or your child has symptoms which are associated with coronavirus. Please visit www.nhs.uk/coronavirus for more details.

Yours faithfully

Ms J Sheriff
Executive Headteacher