



Dear Parents,

I wanted to take the opportunity to update you in full on our decision to close the school today and the reason why this had to be at such short notice, for which I can only apologise. As you can appreciate, we always have to put the welfare of our pupils and the whole school community first.

We have been monitoring the situation very closely since the ski trip returned from Tarvisio in Italy, and taking regular advice from Public Health England. As the region visited was classified as 'category 2', the advice received was to keep the school open as normal with the heightened hygiene measures we had communicated previously.

Early this morning, we were informed that six pupils who were on the trip are suffering from flu-like symptoms and so they are self-isolating and getting checked. A teacher who was on the trip is also self-isolating and has been tested. We are awaiting results, which should take approx. 24 hours and so to clarify, **at present we have no confirmed cases of Coronavirus** and nobody has been hospitalised. We will of course continue to liaise closely with these families and also all those who were on the ski trip while the school remains closed. Naturally, we wish all those who are unwell a speedy recovery.

In order to help protect our school community, we took the difficult decision to close the school. Over the next 24+ hours we will have specialist contractors in to deep-clean the whole school. A decision will be made as to when to open the school depending on the results and advice from Public Health England, although parents should prepare for the school not to open until Monday 2nd March.

Please monitor parent mail and our website for updates, but please try to avoid calling the school directly as we will not be able to answer the calls while the school is closed.

As a reminder of advice provided previously:

Should anyone develop symptoms (a cough / high temperature / shortness of breath) they should call NHS 111 and listen to the advice, which may be to self-isolate.

How to stop viruses:

Do:

- cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze
- put used tissues in the bin immediately
- wash your hands with soap and water often – use hand sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available
- try to avoid close contact with people who are unwell

Don't



- do not touch your eyes, nose or mouth if your hands are not clean

Web Links

You can view the source of this guidance and any updates at:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-specified-countries-and-areas/covid-19-specified-countries-and-areas-with-implications-for-returning-travellers-or-visitors-arriving-in-the-uk>

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-information-for-the-public>

Yours sincerely,

Darren Turner

Executive Principal

Tudor Grange Academy Kinghurst



