



Rye College

The Grove, Rye, East Sussex TN31 7NQ

T: 01797 222545 E: office@ryecollege.co.uk

www.ryecollege.co.uk

Executive Headteacher: Mr Barry Blakelock

Head of College: Mr Dom Downes

12th March 2020

Dear Families and Students,

RESPONSE TO CORONAVIRUS ACTION PLAN

In the light of current concerns, Public Health England/GOV.UK has issued guidance on managing Coronavirus (COVID-19).

Firstly, let me reassure you the school will continue to maintain and promote high standards of cleanliness and encourage good hygiene practice among our students so as to minimise the spread of any infection.

While at time of writing, there are no confirmed cases of Coronavirus in East Sussex, there are sensible and proportionate steps we can all take to support the Government's campaign to contain and delay the potential further spread of infection.

If you have recently returned from abroad

The advice from Public Health England for travellers returning from affected countries/areas identified by the Chief Medical Officer as high risk is to self-isolate and use the NHS 111 online coronavirus service or call NHS 111 to seek advice. <https://111.nhs.uk/service/covid-19>

A list of affected countries/areas can be found here:

<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#china>

It is particularly important to seek medical advice from NHS 111 before a student returns to school as the symptoms of Coronavirus can take some time to emerge. To protect yourself and others, do not go to a G.P surgery, pharmacy or hospital.

Further information is available here:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-information-for-the-public>

If you have been in close contact with a case or suspected case

If someone in your family has come into contact with a confirmed or suspected case of Coronavirus, stay at home and use the NHS 111 online coronavirus service or call NHS 111.

Please note that students returning from countries/areas where there have been no cases or isolated cases of coronavirus are fine to return to school, if they feel fit and well.



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The school will continue to monitor events closely and follow local and national Government advice in this dynamic situation. We have well-rehearsed contingency plans in case there is a need to act quickly and will communicate with students, parents and families through our website and usual channels.

Further information on Coronavirus can be found on the following websites:

- Public Health England;
<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/public-health-england>
- NHS;
<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>
- Department of Health
<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-of-health-and-social-care>

I would like to remind parents that should the school need to close you will be informed immediately via our texting service, a notice will be posted on the school's website and a message will be put on the school's answer phone. The school's website address is www.ryecollege.co.uk and will contain full and up to date details of all arrangements.

Additionally an announcement will be made on the East Sussex website
<https://www.eastsussex.gov.uk/educationandlearning/schools/schoolclosures/>

Please be assured that at all times, we will continue to act in the best interests of our students and colleagues and will keep you fully informed of any further developments.

Yours sincerely,

D. Downes
Head of School