

Gosfield Hall Park, Gosfield Halstead, Essex CO9 1SE

t: 01787 472134 e:admin@stmargaretsprep.com w: stmargaretsprep.com

Headmaster: Mr Callum Douglas

12th February 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians

Coronavirus

As you know, the situation regarding coronavirus continues to develop. We are monitoring this changing picture closely and following the advice of Public Health England (PHE) to ensure the health of our whole community, including pupils and staff. The advice we are following is regularly updated and I would encourage you to follow this on the PHE website, which offers sensible and unbiased information to anyone who may be worried.

https://www.gov.uk/quidance/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-information-for-the-public

We recognise that some families or pupils may be planning to travel to the following countries during the forthcoming half term break:

- China
- Thailand
- Japan
- Republic of Korea
- Hong Kong
- Taiwan
- Singapore
- Malaysia
- Macau

We would strongly recommend that you refer to the Foreign and Commonwealth Office's (FCO) latest travel advice including considering not to travel.

The FCO has advised against all but essential travel to China.

If you or any member of your family do travel to any of the listed destinations above, please be aware that protective measures may need to be in place at the time of your child returning to school. Depending on how the virus spreads in that time, this could include the need for quarantine.

As more countries succumb to the virus, the list of countries affected by the travel ban/quarantine may be expanded by PHE.

It is highly likely that restrictions will still be in place at Easter, and it is advised to plan for that eventuality.

We will continue to keep you informed as the official advice develops further. Should you wish to discuss any of the above, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Kind regards

Yours faithfully Carolyn Moss

