



## Haberdashers' Monmouth Schools

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From the Principal **Mr James Murphy-O'Connor** MA Oxon

24th February 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians,

### Coronavirus outbreak in northern Italy

As a family of schools with both boarding and day pupils, we have been tracking and monitoring the latest government advice on travel restrictions to help prevent the spread of Novel Coronavirus and to ensure the health and safety of all those within our community. Following this advice, all of our Chinese students remained in the UK over half term. However, this is a fast-changing situation and there is now a significant outbreak of the Coronavirus in northern Italy; an area defined by the Italian government as any region north of Pisa, Florence and Rimini but excluding those cities.

The British government has stated that anyone returning from northern Italy should immediately self-quarantine if they develop any 'flu-like symptoms. In addition, should anyone have visited the following places now in lock-down, they should self-quarantine for 14 days even if they appear to be symptom free:

**In the region of Lombardy:** Codogno; Castiglione d'Adda; Casalpusterlengo; Fombio; Maleo; Somaglia; Bertonico; Terranova dei Passerini; Castelgerundo; and San Fiorano.

**In the region of Veneto:** Vo'Euganeo.

Please could you contact your child's Form Tutor, Head of Year, or Housemaster as soon as possible if you visited northern Italy over half term. We would ask you to follow the government guidelines to the letter. If it proves necessary to self-quarantine your children, we will support them by sending work online and offering catch-up clinics, especially for those in Years 11 or 13.

Looking ahead to the Easter holidays, we are planning to bring in an external consultant, John Zhang from Connexcel with whom we have worked closely for a number of years, to run a residential programme for those students who cannot return home or stay with guardians in April. At the moment, the overseas school trips during Easter should remain unaffected. These trips would only be cancelled if government advice changes.

Thank you for your continued support as we navigate through these challenging times.