



Dear parents and carers,

The safety and care of your children is paramount to me and our school community.

I am writing to you following new advice from the Australian and Victorian governments regarding the novel coronavirus.

All children who have travelled to Hubei Province of China, are advised to stay at home and avoid public settings, including attendance at schools and early learning centres, until 14 days after last being in Hubei province, China. This applies to any and all students even if they do not show any symptoms of the virus.

Children who are well and have travelled to **other provinces in China, or any other areas where there have been reported cases, are NOT recommended to be excluded from schools unless the following applies:**

- **The person is a confirmed case of novel coronavirus**
- **The person is a close contact with a confirmed case of novel coronavirus in the past 14 days**

If you think your child is showing any relevant symptoms of the novel corona virus, please call the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to discuss further actions on 1300 651 160.

This advice is also being provided to teachers and other school staff to ensure we mitigate any risks associated with the spread of the virus.

Attached is a factsheet provided by the Victorian Government providing advice and information about the novel coronavirus, including what actions to take if your child is feeling unwell following travel to the Hubei province, and practical steps to avoid the spread of the virus.

You can also access further information and updates from the following websites:

- For Victorian updates to the current incident, go to: <https://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/novelcoronavirus>
- For national updates: <https://www.health.gov.au/news/latest-information-about-novel-coronavirus>
- For international updates: <https://www.who.int/westernpacific/emergencies/novel-coronavirus>
- WHO resources <https://www.who.int/health-topics/coronavirus>

In circumstances like these, there can understandably be a lot of concern and uncertainty about the safety of your child. Please know that I am available to discuss your concerns with you, and will provide any revised advice to you as soon as it becomes available.

Regards,

Francine Walsh
Principal