

SGS College - Coronavirus Update & Approach

Further to concerns raised and for reassurance, SGS College is continuing to follow Government guidance.

Public health officials in the UK are working to contain any spread of the virus within this country by spotting any cases quickly and isolating them. The current UK cases are all related to infection abroad in China and other Asian countries.

As a college we are continuing to work to raise the profile of our collective responsibility to prevent the spread of illness including:

- Following normal hygiene rules
- Washing hands properly and regularly
- Coughing and /or sneezing into tissues before throwing it away and washing hands
- Ensuring good cleaning practices
- Providing the latest government guidance to staff and learners on the situation.

The latest guidance from the Government can be found at:

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

Information on the areas of most concern can be found at:

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

As you will see from this official communication, there are clear guidelines on self-isolation following travel from certain areas along with actions to take should any symptoms occur. We will also be ensuring this information is communicated to learners via tutors, but also through social media.

Some of the concerns from staff are due to them having recently travelled to Italy or that they have been in contact with people who have, I have included useful links and information below:

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/868103/Map showing specified areas of Italy 250220.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/868103/Map_showing_specified_areas_of_Italy_250220.pdf)

This map identifies the areas of containment, but also in the orange area there is a list of current regions where they are Category 1. If not in the list then Category 2:

<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>

Category 1: Travellers should self-isolate, even if asymptomatic, and call NHS 111 to inform of recent travel.

Category 2: Travellers do not need to undertake any special measures, but if they develop symptoms they should self-isolate and call NHS 111.

Therefore, if you have not travelled in the 11 regions identified then this is identified as Category 2, you currently do not need to take any special measures, however, if symptoms develop then self-isolation is required and NHS 111 must be called.

I hope this helps to provide further clarity, but if parents, learners or staff have any concerns at all, please direct these to info@sgscol.ac.uk and we will follow up.

As always, I thank you for your continued support.

Sara-Jane Watkins
SGS College Principal