



SAINT GEORGE
ACADEMY Est. 1968

Dear SGA Students, Faculty, Staff, & Parents

You have likely heard that the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) gave an update yesterday on the spread of the novel coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19) and asked schools to prepare for the possibility that the virus will directly affect the United States. Please be assured that we take this situation very seriously and have begun planning for a wide range of contingencies.

As the CDC emphasized, the number of cases in the United States is currently very small. However, given how quickly the global situation is evolving, we are closely monitoring new developments and will continue to reevaluate our plans and procedures daily. We are prepared to be flexible and measured in our response to an unpredictable situation. We are working on distance learning plans to be employed in the event of a temporary school closure.

As we approach Easter Break, the number of countries under travel alerts and advisories continues to rise. We ask families to remain informed about travel restrictions and quarantine themselves and family members if they travel to an area impacted by the virus. Since there is no way to know what the status of the COVID-19 outbreak will be at the end of March, please be advised that we may update this policy as the situation develops over time.

SGA has taken additional precautionary measures to limit the transmission of viral illnesses, including frequent disinfection of communal surfaces and deep cleaning classrooms. We recommend that students and faculty refrain from shaking hands when greeting one another.

The most effective way to stay healthy and minimize the spread of infectious disease is to follow basic health and hygiene practices like:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue or your elbow
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth
- Stay home if you are feeling ill. Faculty, staff, and students should not return to school until they have been fever-free for 24 hours without fever-reducing medication.

During this time of concern, we realize that students may become anxious or have questions about the virus and its transmission. Please feel free to speak to your faculty and staff if you have any concerns.

As always, the safety and well-being of our students is our top priority. We will continue to follow the expert advice and recommendations of the CDC, WHO, and the NYC Department of Health, and will update you with any new developments.

Sincerely,

Andrew Stasiw
Principal

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