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Rosebery School

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5 March 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

I am writing to inform you that with great regret we have made the decision to cancel the forthcoming trip to Japan.

We have taken a great deal of advice from various authorities and our insurance company about this decision. It is now clear that the uncertainty about both the spread and management of the coronavirus will continue for many weeks. We have therefore come to the conclusion that it is unwise to travel to a country which has already been given category 2 status, and which has closed all of its schools and many tourist attractions, something which will significantly impact on the itinerary, and therefore compromise the experience for the students. There is naturally a risk that a member of the group could contract the virus, but the higher risk is probably a lengthy quarantine period, either in Japan or once they return. Leading a trip of this scale is a huge responsibility for the staff in normal circumstances. Whilst there is considerable conjecture and uncertainty about what will unfold in the forthcoming weeks, it is very clear that things are not going to return to normal in the short term. We also believe it is important to take the decision at this time, so that you also have some certainty about the trip going forward.

We have submitted a claim to our insurance company and we will be in touch with you about the return of your payments as soon as we can. Your patience whilst this claim is underway is appreciated.

I know how disappointing this outcome will be for your daughter and to you. The Japan staff team and I share that sentiment entirely, but the health, safety and well being of the students and staff is our greatest responsibility and it is ultimately for that reason that we cannot allow the trip to go ahead.

Yours sincerely

Ros Allen
Headteacher

Headteacher: Ms R Allen MA NPQH

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