

12 March 2020

Dear AISCT Community,

I would like to provide an update on our COVID-19 (Coronavirus) response and prevention measures, especially in relation to our upcoming school holiday. This is a follow-up to the first letter that was sent last week, available here: [COVID-19 AISCT Letter #1](#).

First, I would like to extend my gratitude to our teachers, staff, and students who have all heeded the call to engage in advanced personal hygiene measures. This includes the following:

- Implementing the 6 essential steps to reduce viral transmission as the new norm.
- Discouraging the sharing of food or drinks.
- Additional disinfectant soap in bathrooms and hand sanitizers in all classrooms.
- Maintenance team using anti-bacterial products on all high-touch surfaces daily.
- Increasing frequency of school building cleaning by maintenance staff; extra school-wide deep cleansing in place.
- Sending home students or staff with flu-like symptoms, returning only 24 hours after fever has broken.

We continue to monitor daily news reports and follow the guidance from the World Health Organization (WHO), Centers for Disease Control (CDC), the US State Department, and the South Africa Ministry of Health. COVID-19 is now considered a worldwide pandemic by the WHO and we must continue to do all that we can to prevent the continued spread of the virus.

With our upcoming March holiday, there is an understanding some of our families may travel internationally. Please know, with the current COVID-19 outbreak, many organizations around the world are advising against any non-essential international travel. The US Department of State has issued the following travel advisory:

*"The Department of State advises US citizens to reconsider travel abroad due to the global impact of Covid-19. Many areas throughout the world are now experiencing Covid-19 outbreaks and taking action that may limit traveler mobility, including quarantines and border restrictions...Even countries, jurisdictions, or areas where cases have not been reported may restrict travel without notice."*

On Wednesday evening, the President of the United States issued a travel ban on foreign nationals entering the USA from 26 European countries. Should you need specific information on this development, please read the full information [here](#). In addition, the CDC has an informative webpage for COVID-19 and travel related questions [here](#).

To ensure the welfare of our students and staff, and out of an abundance of precaution, the following preventative measures will be implemented with immediate effect:

- Any person (student, parent, or staff) who travels to/from an area under a CDC Level 2 or 3 Health Notice will not be permitted on school grounds until 14 days after return. Please inform the school accordingly. Currently, this includes the following countries and is subject to change:
  - China (Level 3)
  - South Korea (Level 3)



- Iran (Level 3)
- Italy (Level 3)
- Japan (Level 2)
- Any person (student, parent, or staff) who has contact with a confirmed or suspected COVID-19 case will not be permitted on school grounds until cleared by a medical doctor. Please inform the school accordingly.
- Any person (student, parent, or staff) who has a fever (temperature above 37.5°C) must not come to campus until 24 hours after the fever breaks, irrespective of other COVID-19 symptoms.
- Any person (student, parent, or staff) who has been to a risk area and develops symptoms (e.g. fever, muscle pain, cough, sneeze, diarrhea) OR has direct contact with a confirmed or suspected COVID-19 case, should stay at home and immediately contact the National Institute for Communicable Diseases (NICD) hotline at 0800 029 999 (<http://www.nicd.ac.za>). Please inform the school accordingly.

We are all in this together and urgently need your adherence to these measures. Everyone plays an important role. Please continue to stay up-to-date on the rapidly evolving situation by visiting the following websites:

- [WHO Situation Reports](#) (updated daily)
- [CDC](#)
- [Interactive Map of COVID-19 Outbreak](#)

The School will continue to do everything we can to take a preventative and proactive approach. Please remember, whether at school or at home: **Planning is Prudent, Panic is Problematic!**

I will continue to provide updates to the school community as the situation evolves. Please feel free to reach out with any questions or suggestions. I wish everyone a safe and relaxing break.

Kind regards,

Dr. Daniel Jubert  
Headmaster  
[djubert@aisct.org](mailto:djubert@aisct.org)

