

3rd March 2020

Proposed Transition Year trip to Italy - March 2020.

Dear Parent/Guardian,

This morning, 3rd March, a meeting was held with the families of the students who are due to go on the proposed ski trip to Italy next Saturday 7th March.

At the meeting the Principal went through the issues affecting the tour particularly regarding Corona virus. The latest advice obtained from the Department of Foreign Affairs and the health service was distributed to parents and also the latest position of the travel company Top Flight.

At the meeting the Principal stressed the serious risk to the students and staff being either affected by the virus directly or being required to remain in Italy beyond their due return date. There was also information given regarding the possible need to be placed in quarantine on their return or people whom they come into contact being placed in increased danger of contracting the virus.

After a discussion it was decided by the overwhelming majority of those present not to proceed with the tour even though this will entail the probable loss of all monies paid for the tour. It was agreed that the school will endeavour to see if any of the monies can be recouped or credit is given by the travel company but this process may take some time. It should be noted that an individual who has paid for the trip may go as an individual but without the support of the school and they may contact the travel company with regards to facilitate this. However, the previous warnings remain regarding the virus and quarantine measures.

The school regrets that the trip cannot go ahead but hopes that people understand that the school has a duty of care to both the local community and to its staff and students. We will continue to liaise with the travel company with a view to seeking some form of compensation and thank the families concerned for their cooperation.

Paul Thornton
Principal

