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Sent: 17 June 2021 15:27

Subject: Communication from Department for Education for boarding schools - Change to Passenger Locator Forms (PLF) covering exception for pupils travelling to attend a boarding school

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to notify you that passenger locator forms (PLF) were changed on 17 May 2021 to expressly cater for the exemption that permits pupils, who have travelled from or through a red list country to attend a boarding school in England, to quarantine in accommodation arranged by their boarding school.

This means that the instructions related to the completion of PLFs, which were included in the letter sent to you in March 2021 (referred to throughout as the 'March letter'), have now been superseded. As such, you should now ensure that all boarding school pupils arriving from red list countries (or that have travelled through red list countries in the 10 days prior to arrival) follow the steps below prior to travel (deletions from the March letter are marked with a strikethrough below, with additions in blue bold text):

- take a Coronavirus (COVID-19) test and get a negative result during the 3 days before they travel;
- book and pay for a travel test package, which will include COVID-19 tests to be taken on day 2 and day 8 of their quarantine; and
- complete a passenger locator form before arrival, with details of where they will quarantine when they arrive and the travel test package booking reference number. In completing this form, they should:
 - confirm **'yes' when asked 'Are you travelling for a reason that means you do not need to quarantine'** that ~~'no' they are not required to quarantine in a government approved facility (although boarding pupils are still required to quarantine where the Secretary of State considers appropriate — in this case in accommodation arranged by their school in accordance with the Department for Education's guidance)~~
Please note: this question is intended to be about quarantining in a government-approved facility rather than related to boarding school students quarantining in accommodation provided by their school (which remains mandatory under the arrangements for such students who have travelled from or through a red list country);
 - **then confirm the appropriate exception to hotel quarantine – pupils travelling to a boarding school in England should use 'Travelling from abroad to a boarding school (England, Northern Ireland and Scotland only)';**
 - then confirm that 'yes' they need to self-isolate;
 - then confirm that 'yes' they know where they will be staying on arrival;
 - then provide the address of their boarding school as the place that they will serve quarantine and provide the date of arrival; and
 - then confirm that they are required to complete COVID-19 tests and provide the booking reference for these tests.

Subject to my last paragraph below, other details and processes outlined in the March letter remain unchanged.



Department
for Education

Please ensure that pupils continue to travel with a copy of that letter, which they should present to UK Border Force officials on arrival. Failure to carry that letter may result in the pupil being denied entry.

Finally, the March letter to you made reference to the Health Protection (Coronavirus, International Travel) (England) Regulations 2020. Whilst these Regulations have been replaced by the Health Protection (Coronavirus, International Travel and Operator Liability) (England) Regulations 2021 (“the 2021 Regulations”), the decision described in the third paragraph of that March letter remains in place. Similarly, the authorisation(s) granted in the last paragraph of that letter remains in place. The replacement provisions which give the permitted reasons for leaving or being outside a place of quarantine are to be found in paragraph 13 of Schedule 11 to the 2021 Regulations.

INDEPENDENT EDUCATION DIVISION