

11th June 2020

Dear Parent / Carer

Response to George Floyd Incident

We have all been affected by the images we have witnessed coming from America and more recently here in the UK. Our learners have already been in touch with us with their reflections, thoughts and constructive suggestions. Our Year 12s in particular have been proactive in sharing with us some specific ideas about how they would like LDE UTC to tackle racism. Learners, through the Chaplaincy and our work with Citizens UK, have already started on a Newham wide project. It is important to note that these communications have not been confrontational but are positive and constructive. We also shared a Learning for Life lesson for all our learners last Thursday 04 June on our DigiBriefing Padlet, that we ask all learners to check every morning, and on our Learning 4 Life Padlet. This lesson was for all our learners to reflect on why and on what they could do to show their support.

Our Directors too have shared their thoughts and I have included their statement below.

“A Statement from the LDE UTC Board of Directors about the death of George Floyd

The recent shocking and needless death of George Floyd in the United States has made us all aware of the inequalities and injustices that continue to exist in our society for black people. We are aware that many of you will have seen the video footage of his death and been left feeling hurt, scared and angry about what happened. As a College, we share those feelings of sorrow and anger. We also recognise the significant impact that this may be having on the well-being of our learners, staff and their families at LDE UTC. The College is committed to a journey to being a fully inclusive college where everybody can bring their whole self to work and study and where all our learners and staff are able to grow and achieve their potential.

Currently, the College is rolling out specific support measures for its learners through the learning for life programme and its multi-faith chaplaincy service. For staff there will be a conversation opportunity to discuss the recent events, share their feelings and show solidarity against what happened.

The LDE UTC Board of Directors”

On Wednesday this week, the staff and Directors met together in a show of unity and solidarity and had the opportunity to voice our thoughts and feelings with regards to recent events. As a college, we do not condone any form of racist behaviour and we are very fortunate to have both a very diverse learner body and staff body. We also recognise that bias can be subtle or unconscious – the awareness of which we will be working on over the course of the next few weeks as we reflect further on the messages that need to be shared with our learners and staff. We will share our ideas and plans for the future in due course.

In the meantime, we hope that you are all keeping well. We hope to be sharing with you details of the re-opening of the college tomorrow latest, following our meeting with the Board of Directors. Year 10s and 12s who have said they will be returning, will receive an email detailing the days that they will be expected to be in alongside some guidance regarding what to expect.

Yours Sincerely,



Geoffrey Fowler
Principal & CEO, LDE UTC

