

11 May 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

RE: The Prime Minister's remarks about the re-opening of schools – NO CHANGE

Many of you will have heard the Prime Minister make reference yesterday to the 'road map' for the next steps in combatting Coronavirus and moving towards partial re-opening of a range of businesses, leisure facilities and schools.

The Prime Minister's reference was to the possibility of a partial re-opening of schools in June. There was no definitive announcement about the exact date. It is vital, therefore, that we are all clear that, as of now, **there is no change to the current arrangements.**

Whilst we recognise that the current arrangements continue to provide challenges for you and your children, rest assured that LDE UTC, alongside other secondary schools, and the local authority are working together on planning for re-opening at the appropriate time. Please also be assured that the most important consideration for all involved in this is the safety and mental, emotional and physical wellbeing of our learners and staff.

We will, of course, keep you updated on any future developments in this regard.

LDE UTC staff continue to work hard planning lessons for learners and we have been pleased with the response from the majority of our learners who are attempting the tasks set. Our Heads of Year, SENCO and Teaching Assistants have all been making weekly telephone calls to learners and/or parents/carers and will continue to do so for the foreseeable future.

We understand that many of our learners are struggling with motivation and we would like to remind learners, parents and carers that our Chaplaincy is still open for those who wish to engage with their services. Joy and Mother Vienna can be contacted directly at chaplaincy@ldeutc.co.uk and have successfully run Teams meetings for those that are missing seeing their friends.

Newham CAMHS is offering bookable 40min slots via Eventbrite for any NON- CAMHS cases who would like a video-conference call from a CAMHS clinician. This is on a first come first served basis and they are running once a month on a Saturday. Please note that this is not for crisis cases.

Eventbrite link for families to sign up for Online Pop-Up CAMHS:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/online-pop-up-camhs-newham-registration-102088330946>

Newham CAMHS Workshops are also being relaunched online (via Zoom) starting 27th May with a Coping with Anxiety workshop. These are always very popular.

A reminder that workshops are open for any young person/family in Newham and families are encouraged to **sign up themselves** using the following link: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/newham-camhs-workshops-23209370238>. Workshops are running fortnightly and please find below dates and topics.

- Coping with anxiety (27th May)
- Managing my mood (10th June)
- Managing anger (24th June)
- Managing worries (8th July)
- Parenting and self-care (22nd July)
- Mindfulness and self-care (5th August)

Finally, I'm sure you will all join in with me in congratulating two members of our LDE UTC staff, Brooke and Mariam, who each gave birth to baby boys (within a day of each other!). We wish them all the very best and look forward to meeting the new additions in due course.

Yours Sincerely,



Geoffrey Fowler
Principal, LDE UTC