

17<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

As you are probably aware, the government's guidance on the coronavirus has changed from the 'contain' phase to one of delaying the spread of the virus. We're getting in touch to let you know what we are doing in light of this, and what we expect from all of you, to help make sure our community keeps safe and calm.

We'd like to reassure you that at Lime Academy Watergall we are taking all of the necessary steps to protect our community and are continuing to follow official guidance from the government and the local authority.

#### **What is the current situation?**

- Three members of staff are following government guidelines and self-isolating for the recommended period
- The school remains open under direct advice from Public Health England
- All school functions will continue as normal including Breakfast and After School Clubs
- Pupils should attend unless they feel unwell – if your child has any of the following symptoms they should remain at home for 14 days:
  - a new, continuous cough and/or
  - a temperature
- If a member of your family starts to feel unwell with either a new continuous cough or a temperature all members of your household need to self-isolate for 14 days
- If your child is unwell, report this as you would normally by contacting the school office on 01733 264238
- We will keep you up to date with any changes to the current situation

#### **What we are doing to protect and support pupils and staff?**

- We will continue to monitor the health of the children according to our usual procedures, ie taking a child's temperature and contact you immediately if your child begins to show either of the symptoms outlined above
- We are advising and supporting self-isolation for families that are affected or have been advised by NHS 111 to do so

#### **Lime Academy Watergall**

Bretton, Peterborough PE3 8NX **Tel:** 01733 264 238 **Email:** [office@limeacademywatergall.london](mailto:office@limeacademywatergall.london)

The Lime Academy Trust, trading as Lime Academy Watergall is a company limited by guarantee and exempt charity.

**CN:** 09297519 **RO:** England and Wales 70–72 New Road, London E4 8ET.



- We have increased our daily cleaning and sanitising routine
- Promotion of handwashing throughout the school and providing of hand sanitiser
- Additional PSHE lessons throughout all years to address the children's concerns

#### **What we need you to do**

- If you've recently changed your contact details, please inform the school office **as soon as possible** via [email/telephone]
- Talk to your children about the coronavirus. It's a scary time and we should make sure children feel supported. BBC Newsround has regular updates for younger children and YoungMinds has practical steps older children can take to help with anxiety
- Come and collect your child straight away, if we ask you to (we'll contact you if they become ill with either a temperature or a new, continuous cough)

#### **What happens if the school has to close?**

We will only close if we are either officially advised to do so by the government or if we do not have enough staff to run the school.

In either case, we will:

- Contact you via Parentmail, text message and by phone
- Updates regarding the length of any closure will be on the website
- We will use Parentmail, text message and update the website to advise you of the date of reopening
- We are currently in the process of putting together a pack of resources for children to work on at home. In the first instance children will be given paper resources, should a closure exist for an extended period of time we will provide additional learning opportunities via the website. We will explain this process further should a closure occur
- In the event of a school closure any queries or concerns that you may have should be directed to [office@limeacademywatergall.london](mailto:office@limeacademywatergall.london) and we will endeavour to respond in a timely fashion

Please keep in mind that we're only sending out this information to help the school community prepare. There are currently no plans to close.

#### **If you have any questions**

Please consult the:

- School office - if you have any questions about our response to this issue
- NHS - if you want to know more about the symptoms of coronavirus. If you think you or your child may have the symptoms, use NHS 111 online if at all possible before calling 111
- Department for Education's coronavirus helpline: 0800 046 8687, if you have any questions about the government's response to coronavirus in relation to schools
- Government's travel advice - if you want to know whether any upcoming trip or holiday you're taking abroad should go ahead



Thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully

Angela Wood  
Headteacher