

PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL

Date: 16/03/2020

Enquiries to: Sally Joseph

**Children's Safeguarding
and Social Work**

London Borough of
Camden

Fostering Team

Crowndale Centre

218 Eversholt Street

London NW1 1BD

Dear Camden Foster Carers,

We want to firstly thank you for your continued commitment and understanding through the developments that have come from the Coronavirus COVID-19. We appreciate that this is likely to be worrying to you and the young people in your care especially around the worry of becoming unwell.

We want to ensure you are provided the most accurate and current advice and the London Borough of Camden is currently being guided by NHS England and Public Health England in our action planning related to Coronavirus (COVID-19).

For up to date information about the situation, please visits;

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/public-health-england>

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

Please can you Call NHS 111 immediately should you have any worries regarding your health or the health of someone you care for.

Advice from Public Health England and UK Government is that schools should remain open unless they have confirmed cases, but some have been preparing online resources for pupils in the case that they are forced to shut down.

Please can you also talk to the children and young people within your home and family about the awareness of hygiene and handwashing guidance and inform them of the risk of infection and potential consequences.

We are aware that this may be a time of anxiety for you and your family so please contact us if you want to talk things through. What would be helpful for us is if let us know if you or anyone in your home is feeling unwell so that we can support you accordingly. We anticipate that some young people in your care might be worried or expressing anxieties around the spread of the virus, going to school, and what this situation means for them and those who care for them. We are here to support you when thinking about these conversations and there are some helpful resources to support you when talking with young people about the virus, please see below;

<https://youngminds.org.uk/blog/what-to-do-if-you-re-anxious-about-coronavirus/>

<https://www.mindheart.co/descargables>

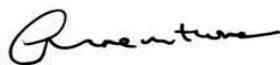
If you are considering travelling or having a break during the school holidays please discuss these plans with your supervising social worker or the social worker of the child/young person in your care.

We will continue to review the situation. This might mean more regular contact to keep you update you and seek your views.

Camden Children Services including fostering service remain open and running 'business as usual'. We will continue to be in regular contact via text message, telephone and home visits. We will continue to provide practical support, and are here to support you should you would like to discuss this further or any other matter please continue to contact your supervising social worker, otherwise fostering duty 02079746783 (9am-5pm) and emergency duty team 02079744444 (5pm-9am) continue to be available for your calls.

We continue to review the situation and as mentioned, we appreciate your commitment especially through these developing circumstances.

Yours sincerely



Anne Turner
Director of Safeguarding and Social Work
Supporting People
London Borough of Camden