Wellspring Academy Trust

Digital Media Centre

County Way

Barnsley

S702JW

Monday 23th March 2020

Dear Parent / Carer,

**Message from Mark Wilson, CEO Wellspring Academy Trust**

We are in the midst of a national emergency. Our primary duty is to support and protect one another. We seek to do exactly this in all our advice and guidance to you.

The strong advice from NHS England is to stay at home. If you can stay at home: You should. If you can keep your loved ones at home: You should. This is not a holiday, social distancing should be adhered to, children must be kept at home wherever possible. Below, we will set out our arrangements where there are exceptions to this principle as identified by the Secretary of State for Education.

Any on-site provision at school necessarily assumes that there is a workforce present to staff it. Health & Safety is and will remain our paramount concern – that of any young people in our care and of our staff. School staff stand at the frontline of this national effort. I urge you to show your respect for these very special efforts in these most challenging of circumstances. You can help our schools enormously throughout this period by:

* Abiding by their decision-making
* Refraining from contacting with questions and queries during the school day
* Keeping your child safe at home

It is our aim to maintain a learning provision for everyone. Our staff have been busily training and preparing to provide online learning. Our planning is aimed at providing the maximum possible for you child that staff availability permits for the duration of these unique circumstances.

As I am sure you will agree it is highly likely that we will be in this unprecedented situation for quite some time so we are actively encouraging parents to get children up, showered and dressed each morning as if you were coming to school. This would greatly benefit mental wellbeing for all in these uncertain times.

Wherever possible try and complete some of the learning tasks each day. Please be assured that Teachers at BPA are working extremely hard to ensure we have virtual learning by Monday 30th March.

My sincere best wishes for your continued good health and that of your loved ones.



Mark Wilson

Chief Executive Officer

Wellspring Academy Trust