

THE LONDON NAUTICAL SCHOOL

61 STAMFORD STREET, LONDON SE1 9NA
TELEPHONE: 020 7928 6801 EMAIL: admin@lns.org.uk

16th March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

On the 12th March 2020 the Prime Minister and the Government announced that they have moved into the 'Delay' phase of the UK Government's plan to tackle coronavirus, COVID-19.

Whilst the Government has stated that schools are not being directed to close at this stage, the advice given may well impact on schools, including London Nautical.

The Governors and I realise the vital importance of taking the virus seriously, the necessity to maintain the education of our students and also to look after the wellbeing of our students and staff.

Therefore, it is very important that everyone follows the most up to date advice, which is that anyone with 'a new, continuous' cough or a high temperature self-isolates for 7 days. More information is on the NHS website: https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/.

Please do not send children into school if they have either of these symptoms and do not come to school yourself if you also have either of these symptoms. Anyone displaying these symptoms, including staff, will need to leave the school site as soon as possible. Parents and carers need to have plans in place to quickly collect their child if they are asked to collect their child from the school. We have to work together in order to reduce or slow down the potential impact of the virus.

We are, as part of our risk assessment, monitoring the sickness levels of our school community who display the early symptoms of the Covid-19 virus and ensuring adequate supplies of hand soap are available at all times.

It is also possible that a high number of school staff may be required to self-isolate. This could have serious implications on how the school operates in the near future. The aim is to remain open for as long as possible whilst working within the guidelines from government.

In order to remain open I may have to implement one or more of the following strategies:

- In the event of many teachers being absent the school may have to suspend the normal curriculum and the children may have different activities.
- More than one class could be supervised in the halls.
- It is expected that the number of children attending school will decrease if the number of staff decreases. Therefore children from different classes may be grouped together.

 Increased use of google classroom to ensure our pupils have continued access to education

I appreciate that these possible options will have a great impact on families and I can guarantee that any decisions taken will be with the safety of the children and staff at its heart. Should the school be directed to make alternative arrangements we have organised for remote access working for our teachers and the school will provide work for our pupils in any intervening period via google classroom. (Please ensure you have the relevant arrangements in place so your child (ren) can log onto Google classrooms).

These are unprecedented times and the information and guidelines from Government are being updated at least daily. I will keep you all informed of any updates via our school text and email systems and the school website, Ins.org.uk

It is vitally important that the school has all of your up to date telephone numbers and email addresses, so please contact the main school office if you need to update any contact information. I may have to send out information with very little notice, so please look out for messages from the school.

Please reinforce the basic messages to your children around hand washing and "catch it, kill it, bin it"

Thank you for your cooperation and ongoing support. I will be in contact again soon.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Michael Schofield Headteacher