

27th January 2021

To: Parents and Carers

Dear Parent/Carer



We hope that your family is safe and well in these times. As an academy, we understand and appreciate that we are working in very different and difficult times.

We want to continue to stay connected with our students daily. One of the ways we do this is through our EduLink check in system in a morning. This system allows students to let us know they are safe and up to start their learning and also allows students to communicate any worries or barriers they may have to their learning daily. Heads of Year and tutors check these each morning to ensure all students are safe and connected with us. Please do ensure that your child is checking in with us each day so we can continue to work with them.

In order to stay connected, we are also sharing our leadership team assemblies with students via their year group Google Classrooms each Friday. We are covering a range of topics linked to mental health and digital resilience to ensure that students' mental health and well-being continue to be supported. There are many practical tips shared and we upload these to our social media pages for our whole community to see. Please do take a look at our recent assemblies on self-care and mental health, self-efficacy and hope, which have been posted to our Facebook page. This week we have the theme of 'staying connected' and this will be led by Mr Simpson.

There continues to be no confirmation of when the academy might return but we will keep you up to date with any information as soon as we get it. We have our Covid microsite with lots of information detailing our provision at this time and videos to explain to students and families how our procedures operate at this time. Please follow this link to see what our remote learning provision looks like: <http://www.westlakesacademy.org.uk/covid-19-support-and-home-learning/>

As I said earlier, these are difficult times and families are facing many different day to day pressures. If you are struggling in any way, please do contact me via my email address relphm@westlakesmat.org.uk or by calling the academy on 01946 820356. This would be completely confidential and we would work with you to provide any support that you may need. We continue to live in a situation we have all not planned for, and the academy wants to do all that it can to support our families. We are here to help. Please also find attached to my letter further information from Cumbria County Council detailing support that is available at this time.

We are missing our students immensely and the building is not the same without them. We are very much looking forward to opening the academy fully when it is safe to do so.

Please do take care and stay safe.

Yours sincerely

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