

Dear Parents/ Carers

Cancellation of Open Day and Open Evening

I am incredibly disappointed to be writing this letter, but I feel that I must, as nothing can ever be more important than the health of the Lakelands community, and its extended family and friends.

We have been really looking forward to opening our doors again to the wider community, and showcasing all the wonderful things that are happening in school. Our facilities have never looked better and our staff and students have been working really hard preparing all manner of exciting activities for visitors to Open Day to take part in.

However, the Covid picture through the county is concerning, and the last week has seen a significant rise in the number of reported cases. Unsurprisingly, there is a similar picture emerging in schools across the county.

A meeting of Shropshire head teachers was held on Friday afternoon. Since then, many of us have decided that at this point in the autumn, with evidence showing growing pressure on NHS Shropshire, the most responsible decision we can take to protect the health of our communities is to avoid holding – at this critical time - any event which would bring people together and potentially act as a ‘super spreader’ event.

Our Open Day is one of the cornerstone events of the Lakelands year, and we know that for parents and carers who don’t know us, or have never been able to visit, it’s a golden opportunity to see who we are, feel the family ethos and meet the staff and students who bring the school to life each day.

This has made making this decision incredibly hard, but morally, I feel it’s the right one. Throughout the pandemic we have all had to make sacrifices to keep our communities as safe as possible, and to keep the NHS afloat, and we must listen to the advice we are being given now.

I’m genuinely disappointed myself, and I’m really sorry to all of you who had hoped to come along to see the many fabulous things Lakelands has to offer, but I hope you will understand.

It’s not all bad news though. If you look on the Lakelands website you will find lots of information about us, and you will be able to see staff talking about lots of different aspects of school life. We made the video clips last year, when we knew from the start that we wouldn’t be having a ‘live’ Open Day, but apart from the fact that those of us in the clips are all a year older, they are still accurate.

Finally, if you do have questions about Lakelands, please do get in touch. You can email us via admin@lakelandsacademy.org.uk or phone us on 01691 622543.

Kind regards

Mrs Bellis