**Re: Lancashire Mind response to COVID-19 – for schools**

During the current and fast changing phases of the coronavirus (COVID-19) epidemic, Lancashire Mind are committed to ensure that all people who use our services and our staff are as safe as possible. This includes all staff and pupils we engage with through our school’s projects.

Following current Government advice and guidance around COVID-19, Lancashire Mind have decided to restrict our working arrangements as follows:

* All staff are avoiding all non-essential face to face contact
* All staff are working from home
* All external meetings and activities have been cancelled until further notice

As you will understand, ensuring we mitigate any potential risk to the health of the people we work with is our priority. We know the current situation will impact many children and young people’s mental health, coupled with the impact of our pulling back from all delivery at the current time. We would therefore like to provide some links and signposting for you to share with children and young people, so that they can take steps to look after their wellbeing as much as possible. Please see the additional documents attached. As previously mentioned, Lancashire Mind staff are still working from home and are available during working hours. If you have any questions or concerns, please get in touch with a member of staff.

In terms of Children in Need, we are still offering phone/ virtual coaching to our young people. Any new referrals you get through school for Children in Need if you could pass them onto our Children in Need Wellbeing Coach, Mabel Mutopo – mabelmutopo@lancashiremind.org.uk and we will try and see how best we can meet and accommodate the needs of these young people. We understand many children that were having Children in Need sessions, are now at home. Please feel free, if relevant to send on our resources if you feel they would help.

Many thanks for your patience and continued support at this difficult and uncertain time.

Yours Sincerely,

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