

SENT VIA EMAIL

Date: 25 March 2020

Our Ref: Admission Appeals Covid-19

Contact: Appeals Officer

Email: schoolappeals@bcpcouncil.gov.uk

Tel: 01202 451163

Dear Parent/Carer

RE: SCHOOL ADMISSION APPEALS SERVICE UPDATE – CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

We are writing to you as you have recently lodged an admission appeal for your child.

Further to announcements made by the Government over the past week in relation to the current Coronavirus pandemic, we have made the decision to postpone all upcoming appeal hearings. This is in response to the Prime Minister's statement on 23 March 2020 asking everyone to limit all but essential movement and clear instructions on social isolating.

We understand that emergency legislation is being worked on by the Government and Department for Education, so until such time as this is published, we are unable to safely run any school admission appeal hearings, as our primary focus is on the safety and wellbeing of our residents, volunteer Panel Members and staff.

We appreciate this will be disappointing for you and realise that your child's school placement is important to you. We will ensure that as soon as the emergency legislation and guidance on admission appeals has been published, we will be working to do our best to rearrange appeals in line with that guidance as promptly as we can.

We wish you and your family well in these unprecedented times and will be in touch again as soon as we have further information to share as to how and when your appeal will be heard.

In the meantime, if you have any questions, please can we ask that you email them to us at schoolappeals@bcpcouncil.gov.uk as our team are home-working in line with the current guidance. Please do bear with us if we can't get straight back to you due to reduced staffing levels.

Yours sincerely



Karen Green
Appeals Officer