



LathamCenters

Passage to a brighter future

Latham Centers' COVID-19 Preparedness

Update 2: March 13, 2020

Memo To: Parents, Guardians, and Stakeholders

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As of this writing, there are no known cases of COVID-19 in Southeastern Massachusetts. That includes Latham Centers Programs. In an effort to protect our community of which you are a member, Latham Centers has put in place very proactive measures until we all can get a better handle on the situation. Those measures have been reviewed and updated daily (and in some cases more often depending upon the latest updates from Public Health). Because of the most current information we have received from CDC, Public Health Organizations and school systems nationally, we are taking additional steps effective today.

Effective today, March 13, 2020, we are cancelling all home visits for our students and residents. We are also discontinuing the practice of parental or other visits to our residential homes. If a parent wants to visit with their child, they must do so in a specific controlled area of our school/admin offices which will be decontaminated daily. If a parent insists on taking their child on a home visit, the student or client will not be allowed to return to our campus or group residence until the parent can show that their child was quarantined for the minimum amount of time set forth by the CDC and does not test positive for the virus.

All community outings for all of our students and clients to crowded areas such as movies, malls, libraries, indoor animal programs have been put on hold for now. We are also suspending any tours or outside visitors to our school and have placed restrictions on our staff making international and in some cases domestic travel. We will more than likely have our compromised individuals remain in their residences to mitigate the potential for the spread of the virus. We will post these update on our website, <https://www.lathamcenters.org/> (click link at bottom of main page, "Update for Latham Families".)

Visits

No one should be coming to any Latham site; we will arrange audio/video visits and meetings. However, in **the rare circumstance** that a non-staff person must come to a Latham site, a summary of the newly implemented visitor (and vendor delivery) protocols follows:

- **Children's Services:** In rare circumstances, any visit to campus must be scheduled in advance, and visitors, including family members, must enter the campus through the Reception Office. A member of Latham's supervisory/management team will greet you at the Reception Office. All visitors will be screened for risk*. If it is determined that a visitor is ill or at risk, he/she will not be admitted to campus. In addition, any parent who takes their child off-campus must follow CDC recommendations regarding good hygiene and social distancing (https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/about/prevention.html?CDC_AA_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fcoronavirus%2F2019-ncov%2Fabout%2Fprevention-treatment.html) and be clear on the home-visit cancellation notice above.

(Continued on page 2)

TTY and ASCII Users: 800.720.3480

www.lathamcenters.org - 508 896.5776

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Brewster Campus
1646 Main St. (Route 6A)
Brewster, MA 02631-1716



Orleans Corporate Offices
14 Lots Hollow Rd.
Orleans, MA 02653-3329

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- **Adult Services:** In rare circumstances, any visit with an individual must be cleared with the residential manager (or on-call manager) and will take place off-site at our administrative offices. Visits are forbidden if you have any flu-like symptoms, or if you have recently traveled. Visitors will be screened for risk.*

***Visitor assessment (for both programs) will include:**

1. Have you had international travel to those countries that are high risk? China, Italy, South Korea, and Iran (CDC recommends 14-day quarantine)
2. Have you been in contact with anyone who has been evaluated and has been diagnosed presumptive or positive with Coronavirus, that you are aware of?
3. Do you have a cough, sore throat, fever, or any respiratory symptoms? If yes, then you may return once symptom-free for 48 hours.
4. What are your plans for your visit with your child — if off-campus?
The recommendation from the CDC is for visiting to be away from highly populated spaces. "Social distancing" is recommended. Outdoor activities at parks, etc. is recommended.

Programming

Changes in programming will be shared with parents through our traditional methods of communication from Children's Services and Adult Services. We are making every effort to minimize students' and residents' exposure. In keeping with CDC recommendations regarding social distancing, we will be rescheduling most group gatherings/events. Information regarding the upcoming prom will be communicated to Children's Program families within the next few days.

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March 11, 2020 Update

To Our Latham Families from Anne McManus, President & CEO:

Massachusetts Gov. Charlie Baker declared a state of emergency yesterday in response to the spread of the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19), noting that *"Responding to this evolving health threat requires everyone to be vigilant and for everyone to be part of this effort."* Latham Centers continues to focus our efforts on education, prevention, and preparedness. To date, we have received no indication that the virus has been identified on Cape Cod or the Islands.

We are taking all precautions to ensure the safety of our students and residents. We are closely monitoring the developments related to COVID-19, following and/or consulting with:

- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)*
- The World Health Organization (WHO)
- The Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MA DPH)

We continue to:

- Reinforce the importance of good hand and cough hygiene. (Washing hands for at least 20 seconds, covering your mouth when you cough, not touching eyes, noses, or mouths).
- Communicate with our staff regarding the importance of thoroughly disinfecting all high-touch surfaces such as doorknobs, as well as staying home if sick.
- Stock all residential and office locations with proper cleaning and protective materials and increase availability and presence of hygiene supplies (tissues, hand sanitizer).
- Ask that visitors not come to Latham sites if they are presenting with flu-like symptoms, or if they have recently traveled.
- Review information provided by the organizations noted above and implement best practices, including Program-specific education and prevention specific to risk level and current advisories from MA DPH and CDC.

We need continued parent/guardian partnership:

- If you have taken your child/adult out of Latham's program (vacation, break, or scheduled visit) and your child/adult becomes ill with respiratory symptoms resulting in fever, body aches, shortness of breath, cough and runny nose, reach out immediately to the Director of Nursing (Children's Services) or the Nursing Services Manager (Adult Services).
- We will provide updates to families as needed.
- *New information will be updated on the CDC Website as it becomes available. We encourage you to keep current by regularly checking the CDC website for updates:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/summary.html>

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