



Wharton CE Primary School  
Greville Drive  
Winsford  
Cheshire  
CW7 3EP

Headteacher: Natalie Tomlinson

Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

I apologise for the very short notice of this communication but we have shared this as soon as possible.

Yesterday afternoon it was announced that the R rate of infection for the Northwest had risen above 1. This means that we are now NOT meeting the 5 agreed tests from government that are needed before schools can open safely. Considering the latest information, and in consultation with the Local Authority, as well as other local head teachers, I have made the difficult decision **not** to move forward with our plans to re-open the school more widely from this Monday.

Please be assured that I have not taken this decision lightly. I know that our children were really looking forward to returning to school next week and this decision may cause some disruption to plans that have been made, both for the children and for you as parents. However, I know that you would want me to make sure that when we do return to school, it is when we can say with as much certainty as possible that it is safe to do so.

I fully expect a statement to be issued by Cheshire West and Chester Local Authority at some point this weekend and I will also share that when it has been published.

For those of you who have been sending children into school for a key worker place then please continue to do that. **This includes those key worker children in Year 6 from the 8<sup>th</sup> and Key worker children in Reception and year 1 from the 9<sup>th</sup> if they are already booked in as key workers.** We are committed to providing the support that you need.

The Chair of Governors and senior leaders of the school are clear that while we might be ready to open school more widely, it is now not safe to do so and we need to remain closed to all, other than Key worker children until the R rate drops below 1. We will monitor this situation closely and inform you when the situation changes.

Free school meal provision will still go ahead as planned from the school and will be available from the Kitchen as a sandwich. Vouchers are no longer being issued by school.

Please continue to use the [closed@wharton.cheshire.sch.uk](mailto:closed@wharton.cheshire.sch.uk) email account and once again thank you for your continued support.

Natalie Tomlinson