



3rd January 2021

Ref: Closure of Wolverhampton Schools from Tuesday 5th January 2021

Dear parents and carers at our Wolverhampton Schools

Happy new year to you all.

Sadly, the number of cases of coronavirus in Wolverhampton has continued to rise in recent days, with latest data showing an infection rate of 530 people per 100,000 in the city – the highest in the region.

The city is also seeing a very high positive test rate of 23% which is similar to many areas of London and the South East.

With this information in mind, Perry Hall MAT Trust Board have made the decision that all Wolverhampton schools within our Trust are to remain closed for the beginning of the new term. This announcement affects the following schools:

- Perry Hall Primary School
- Berrybrook Primary School
- Dunstall Hill Primary School
- Woodthorne Primary School

From Tuesday 5th January until Friday 8th January, these schools will be closed to all children, apart from those classed as vulnerable and whose parents/carers are critical workers. See information on critical workers below:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision>

All pupils not attending school will be provided with access to remote learning (more information to follow from individual schools). Our plan is to review the situation again on Thursday 7th January to make a decision on opening our school for the following week. This will be announced to you all in the morning of Friday 8th January.

Parents and carers of vulnerable children and those who are critical workers will be contacted by their individual schools on Monday 4th January, to confirm their child(ren)'s attendance for the following day.

In light of the statistics detailed at the beginning of this letter, Wolverhampton City Council have formally written to the Secretary of State for Education to express their concerns and

seek Government support on all primary, nursery and special schools in Wolverhampton moving to remote learning from 4th January. Wolverhampton Council are yet to receive a response to this, however as a Trust we have made our decision to remain closed to protect our staff, children and families in the Wolverhampton area where rates are high.

Children working remotely from home who are currently claiming free school meals will be provided with the option to collect a weekly hamper from school. More information will follow on this shortly. Vulnerable and key worker children attending school who are currently claiming free school meals will be provided with a school meal as normal.

I fully appreciate this change may cause you some inconvenience, however the safety of our school community remains to be our absolute priority.

Thank you for your support and understanding.

Your sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Amarjit Cheema'.

Amarjit Cheema OBE