

Wellspring Academy Trust
Digital Media Centre
County Way
Barnsley
S702JW

12 October 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

I write with a situation update with the aim of keeping you informed about developments as they happen.

We are seeing a mixed picture across the Trust region in terms of infection rates, local COVID management measures, access to testing and the speed of testing. Consequently, the picture within our schools is a mixed one.

It is very frustrating and a final resort to close any class, group or indeed school. We do not want to do it. We are guided, however, by advice from Public Health England and Local Authority teams. Management of the pandemic requires that we work in concert with these agencies, exercise common sense and follow the guidelines. At times, that may mean that your child is not in school.

We are working to ensure that continuity of education is the best that it can be in the event of extended absence from school. I ask that you bear with and support the school as these are difficult times for all.

We are working with our schools and communities on the assumption that the virus and its management through local and national measures will be with us for some time to come. Be prepared for this situation to continue on well into the New Year. We understand that your child being at home can present challenges to work and family life. Any disruption to a child's education is not a fact lost to us.

Thus far, Wellspring Academies overall have enjoyed very high attendance. We have experienced 'hot spots' that have required temporary partial or full closures. Thank you for supporting us by ensuring that your child has been in school every day that s/he is able to do so.

Now and for the future, please; ensure that you are reading school news and bulletins, plan and prepare flexibly with the assumption that you may be affected by school closure at some time, observe your local COVID management measures, provide every support to your school and community that you possibly can.

With every best wish,



Mark Wilson
Chief Executive Officer, Wellspring Academy Trust