



27 May 2020

## **DELAY TO SCHOOL REOPENING FOLLOWING DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL BRIEFING**

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you will know from previous communications, we have been planning to open school to more pupils from Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June, however this was always subject to change and a specific date for re-opening had not yet been confirmed.

In the light of the most recent SAGE report, the delay in contact tracing implementation, and infection rate data showing the North East as the highest in the country, Durham County Council (DCC) issued a briefing update at 9:30am this morning:

*'In view of the SAGE report findings and because we wish to give the highest protection to staff, children and our wider communities DCC reiterates that it is not advising schools that they commence wider phased opening on the 1<sup>st</sup> June. The position of vulnerable and key worker children remains the same.'*

Wolsingham Primary School have decided to follow DCC guidance and consequently we will not be reopening our school as planned from the 1<sup>st</sup> June to ensure the continued safety of our children. We will however be providing childcare for vulnerable and key worker children in the same manner that we have for the last 10 weeks.

In terms of when school will now reopen, DCC states, 'Government guidance now indicates that secondary schools should start to reintegrate Y10 and Y12 pupils from the 15<sup>th</sup> June and based upon current information available to us, we believe this is a more realistic timeline for all schools to work towards for expanding their numbers, subject to government scientific advice and individual school risk assessments.'

**15<sup>th</sup> June is now our next target date for opening, however, this is again subject to change.**

Thank you for completing the parent surveys. We will be planning for reopening from 15<sup>th</sup> June based on these responses, unless you advise us differently.

We will continue to keep you informed of any changes.

We realise that these are very stressful times, with constantly changing guidance and social media scaremongering, but we very much appreciate your understanding and support. Our priority has always been the safety of our children, staff and our local



community and any decisions we make going forward will be based upon the most current advice available.

If you have any questions, please contact the school.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

*S. Kitching*

S. Kitching  
Headteacher

