



Neston Primary School

"We will do our very best to help our pupils achieve their very best"

www.nestonprimaryschool.co.uk

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Headteacher: Rob Golding B.Ed(Hons) NPQH

6th June 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians/Carers,

As you know, school has been open for children of key workers since the closure began. **We will remain open for these children throughout the coming weeks.** If you are a key worker you can start to use this service or continue to use it.

Yesterday, a number of local authorities told their schools to postpone opening to more children as the "R -Rate" (The rate of infection) had risen above 1.0 in the North West.

The Government set out 5 tests that needed to be met before schools re-opened. The R-Rate staying below 1 was one of the criteria, as was having an effective 'Track & Trace' system in place. **Both of these criteria have not been met.**

In consultation with staff and governors we will now
NOT be opening for year 6
on the 8th of June and to Reception and Year 1 on the 15th June.

The earliest we may open up to more pupils, will be the 22nd June.

I understand that some parents will be frustrated, and even angry, at this decision, but we are of the opinion, that opening school now is not right and not safe for pupils and staff.

We need to continue to make on-going assessments and will keep you informed to our plans.

I am hoping that Cheshire West & Chester Council will release a press statement later today to explain their stance on this subject

We have all worked tirelessly to ensure that our school is ready to open. We have worked to set our school up, following the guidance, we have thoroughly risk assessed all aspects, written and implemented new policies, liaised with governors and parents, trained our staff, produced resources to support children coming back in short we have done all that is in our power. What is out of our hands is NHS Test and Trace system and analysis of R values.

Other local schools may make a different decision regarding re-opening to more pupils. That is their choice. Throughout this 'experience' we have had to make decisions that we feel are right for our school, pupils, parents staff and families.

I would like to thank a group of Governors who were to meet today, at short notice, to help in the decision making.

Yours sincerely

R. Golding
Headteacher