



D'Eyncourt Primary School

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Covid Update 3.1.2021

3rd January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

Firstly, I would like to start by wishing you all a very Happy New Year. I had hoped that 2021 would be a better year but unfortunately, we have been made aware of the rapidly rising infection rates across Wolverhampton. This has prompted the Leader of Wolverhampton Council to write to the Secretary of State yesterday, requesting permission to delay the opening of the city's Primary and SEND schools. CLPT have sent an email in support of the Local Authority's position, in which they have said that if they do not believe they can provide safe environments in our Wolverhampton schools, then they will act independently and delay opening of these settings.

Our Local Authority have published figures that today have been discussed at length by our trustees.

1. The rate in Wolverhampton is increasing fast and there is no evidence of it slowing
2. The rate is currently at 674.7 per 100,000 as at the 31 December 2020. This rate was 337 on 24 December 2020
3. Wolverhampton's positivity rate is at its highest point since the pandemic started – 24.3%, in line with many London boroughs
4. Over the last 2 weeks we have seen an extreme spike in Covid case numbers, far exceeding anything previously
5. Wolverhampton's Covid case rate is seeing a significant increase across all age ranges including children
6. Currently our profile is similar to that of London and the South East 2-3 weeks ago
7. Based on the current high positivity rate and increasing overall rate, it is highly likely the new more aggressive variant is within the City

Discussions with trustees and individual heads has resulted in CLPT making the recommendation to delay the opening of our Wolverhampton primaries for all, other than vulnerable pupils and the children of key workers, until Monday 11th January in the first instance. This will mean that the pupils of D'Eyncourt will not return on 5th January 2021 as previously planned.

Instead, pupils will be able to access remote learning from Tuesday 5th January 2021. Your child's class teacher will be contacting you via Class Dojo with how you can access our remote learning.

We will be publishing further information tomorrow for those parents who are key workers and children who receive Free School Meals on Class Dojo.

Please accept our apologies in the lateness of this communication, but I hope you appreciate much of this was outside our direct control.

Yours sincerely,

D Darby

Mrs D Darby
Headteacher



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