

# Cheshire West & Chester Council

## Education and Inclusion

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Dear Parents and Carers

As you will be aware the government have set out an ambition that schools are to re-open from 1<sup>st</sup> June.

As a Local Authority, we have been consulting closely with schools and other partners about the best and safest way to re-open schools, at the earliest possible date.

As a result of these discussions the Local Authority is strongly advising schools not to widen their re-opening until, at the earliest, 8<sup>th</sup> June and that will, of course, be subject to any further developments in national advice and guidance. Schools will, however, continue to follow national guidance in offering places to children of key workers and vulnerable children.

We would also ask you to understand that not all schools will be able to re-open at the same time or for the same eligible year groups. This will be for a variety of reasons, such as staff availability (due to Covid-19) and the possible challenges around school buildings that may make social distancing more difficult to achieve when following the national advice and guidance.

Your school will keep you informed as to their decision about re-opening and when this will take place, and for which children. The schools have been undertaking rigorous risk assessments and the Local Authority will support schools with the decisions they make.

In the meantime, we would like to thank you and our schools for their patience, understanding and hard work during these very difficult times.

Yours sincerely

Mark and David

**Mark Parkinson and David McNaught**  
**Directors of Education and Inclusion**



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and Chester