

More than 80% of parents not sending children back to school – GMB poll



More than 80% of parents don't intend to send their children back to school today, a GMB poll shows.

A total of 1,601 members responded to a GMB Union survey launched on Friday May 29 – with a massive 1,307 saying they were not planning on sending their children back today.



During the weekend several members of the Government's own SAGE advisory body, **warned against easing lockdown restrictions** for children Reception, Year 1 and year 6.

“ School staff, parents, councils and top scientists all agree – opening schools more widely today is a risk too great.

Karen Leonard, GMB National Officer

Top scientists also said opening schools today would compromise the UK's coronavirus lockdown strategy.

They join school staff, parents, and councils in urging Ministers to defer wider school opening until the infection rate is lower.

Karen Leonard, GMB National Officer, said:

“The Government needs to show us the evidence – the public have wised up and demand open and honest transparency.

“School staff, parents, councils and top scientists all agree – opening schools more widely today is a risk too great.

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“We still have thousands of new infections every day in the UK, and the track and trace system is nowhere near ready.

“We all want life to get back to normal as quickly as possible – but it's not worth putting children and staff at greater risk for the Government to try and get some easy headlines

“Ministers must immediately publish data on how many pupils and staff have been tested, how PPE is made available, who is funding it and the R rates where schools have opened more widely. ”

Press office

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