

REF: DD/CF

FAO: Mr John Swinney MSP  
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24<sup>th</sup> August 2020

Dear Mr Swinney,

This weekend we have surveyed our members across education about their experiences since the return to schools and nurseries.

The results are stark.

- 63% do not feel safe at work.
- 46% do not know what the procedure is if there is a suspected or confirmed covid-19 case in the school/nursery.
- 96% want regular and systematic testing brought into education settings.

As you know GMB have been excluded from the Education Recovery Group but our members are in your schools making sure they are clean, making meals for children, supporting children in the classrooms and providing medical support for some of our most vulnerable children.

We demand that these workers are listened to.

GMB members demands are simple. They are urging you not to make the same mistakes made in social care, and that the current testing procedures currently in place in care are introduced in schools. Testing kits should be delivered to every education setting on a weekly basis and staff have the choice to get a routine test in their workplace.

For the health and safety of all school staff, GMB are calling for a robust, regular, testing regime to be put in place across education as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Drew Duffy'.

**Drew Duffy**  
**GMB Scotland Senior Organiser**