

Written evidence submitted by Mr Mark Nash

Guidance for opening schools to all from September ignores research into seasonality

“The researchers suggest that indoor heating during the winter months may also contribute to the spread of the disease by drying out the protective mucus barrier within the nose and airways, making viral infection easier.”

“Our findings point to a role for seasonality in the transmission and severity of COVID-19, and also argue for increased humidity and hydration as a way to combat the virus,” said Dr Gordan Lauc, Professor of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology at the University of Zagreb and honorary visiting Professor at King’s College London and senior author of the study. “This paints a grim picture for the next winter in Europe when more severe “winter” COVID-19 is expected to return - something we are currently observing in the southern hemisphere.”

<https://covid.joinzoe.com/post/weather-covid>

<https://doi.org/10.1101/2020.07.11.20147157>

The guidance ignores this and instead encourages “bubbles” in secondary schools of 240 students plus staff, no social distancing and no wearing of masks. It also ignores asymptomatic transmission about which the Prime Minister claims to have hard lessons.

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