

**SARAH ATHERTON MP**  
Member of Parliament for Wrexham



**HOUSE OF COMMONS**

LONDON SW1A 0AA

Rt Hon Rishi Sunak MP  
Chancellor of the Exchequer  
HM Treasury  
1 Horse Guards Road  
London  
SW1A 2HQ

3<sup>rd</sup> April 2020

Dear Rishi

Many of my Welsh colleagues and I have been contacted by our constituents who are supply teachers. Many teachers in Wales are supply teachers, rather than employed directly by the school or Local Authority. Due to this, supply teachers will be seriously disadvantaged during this Coronavirus pandemic.

It has been confirmed that supply teachers on PAYE should be furloughed by their agencies, a clarification which we are pleased to receive. As such, agencies have all been contacted by the National Procurement Service and should be contacting all those on their books to pass on this information.

However, these agency workers are only entitled to 80% of National Minimum Wage, as the rest of normal salary is construed as a bonus relating to performance.

This will obviously put financial pressure upon our teachers, who for no other fault of their own, will be disadvantaged because of a system encouraged by Welsh Government. Schools and teaching are crucial and have already been impacted hugely by Coronavirus, despite the decisions taken by the UK Government being necessary to save lives and slow down the spread of the virus. As such, it seems unduly harsh that Welsh supply teachers should suffer further in this way.

I would be grateful if you could look into this.

Yours ever

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sarah Atherton".

**Sarah Atherton MP**  
**Member of Parliament for Wrexham**