

# Stockport2020 – video transcript

Video transcript of Stockport Write out Loud poetry reading by Dorinda MacDowell.

## **Silence**

I'm drowning in silence,  
she thought,  
always longed for peace and quiet  
but not like this,  
she thought

There's no-one about  
outside my front door,  
no kids in the playground,  
no elderly ladies carrying bags of shopping

I don't like this,  
she thought:  
not a single soul,  
where are the children?

She paused.

I used to hear them at play time  
at the school across the road,  
I used to hear the shrill whistle  
of the teacher's summoning them to stop.  
then it became quiet.  
But not like this

I always loved solitude  
and quiet,  
she thought,  
it's not much fun any more  
it's just sort of eerie

One day, one day,  
she thought,  
I'll hear the kids playing out at break time.  
and when I do,  
I won't wish them back in the classroom,  
so I can sit quietly at my back porch.  
No.

I shall smile  
because then I will know that  
lockdown is all over.