

Dear Parents and Carers

RE School reopening plans

I hope this letter finds you well and that you are staying safe.

I am writing to inform you of our educational offer following the Prime Ministers briefing on Sunday 10th May and the Government updates that have subsequently followed.

Since that date, we have been working hard to interpret the information and consider how best we can safely accommodate the reopening of the school to children in F1, F2, Y1 and Y6, and continue to provide support for children of critical workers and vulnerable children across all year groups.

There have been many things we have needed to take into consideration including staffing levels, available space, resources, but most importantly the safety of all children, parents and staff who come onto the school site.

As a school, we continue to offer places for children of critical workers or vulnerable children in ALL year groups. As the lockdown begins to ease, I am aware that more critical worker parents will be returning to work and may now need their child to attend our school for childcare. If this applies to you, please email us at ml-admin@vennacadeemy.org giving brief details and to request a place, allowing a week's notice if possible, so we have time to adjust staffing if required.

Our proposal is that from June 1st children in F1, F2, Y1 and Y6 will be invited to attend school 2 days per week (children in these year groups who have parents who are critical workers can continue to attend full time as per the information above). This will allow us to accommodate the maximum amount of children as possible in our very small classrooms. Pupils will either be invited into school all day Monday and all day Tuesday or all day Thursday and all day Friday. This will allow us to clean thoroughly the school on Wednesday and Friday night. You will be informed which group your child is in by text on Friday 22nd May.

Each cohort of children will be split into small groups (no more than 15 children) and these children will work in the same classroom, with the same teacher and the same children for the next six weeks.

If you are intending your child to return to school, Dolce will be providing hot and cold meals in grab bags that will be eaten in the classroom. These will need to be booked on the day in the classroom. If you wish, you may provide your child with a packed lunch. We also ask all parents to provide their child with a water bottle.

We have spent last week, preparing the school for the return of the pupils. The classrooms have been arranged to conform with social distancing rules and the school is following all the current guidance from the government to ensure the safety of everyone in the school when it reopens.

We have sent out a text to the parents of F1, F2, Y1 and Y6 pupils to enquire whether they would be sending their child back to school on June 1st. If you wish your child to have a place back in the school, you need to book a place by Friday 22nd May, otherwise we will not be able to accept your child in school. It is important that we plan precisely for the number of children we expect to be in the school.

For your information, we have prepared a preliminary risk assessment for the school reopening and it is available on our website if you would like to view the plans.

Please be aware that a final decision will be made as to whether the school will reopen on 29th May when the school expects an announcement from the Government about schools reopening and Doncaster Borough Council, Venn Academy and the school will make a final decision following the most up-to-date advice.

Kind regards

Mrs L Tomlinson

Head of School