



# John Donne Primary School

Woods Road, Peckham, SE15 2SW

Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

## Plans for the Re-opening of the School Building

I hope that you are safe and that you are keeping well.

You will have received a letter from our Chair of Trustees on Tuesday giving an outline as to how we will be re-opening schools within the Trust. This letter is to give a little more detail as to how this would work at John Donne.

We have decided that a phased return of some children might be possible in June, given certain safety measures. We know that the most effective measures currently against the spread of the Coronavirus are:

1. Hand washing.
2. Cleaning.
3. Social distancing.

We have, therefore, devised a plan to ensure that we can work with all three of these measures. The plan is flexible and adaptive, and will be subject to regular review to ensure that we can continue to maintain a safe place for children and staff to learn and work. That being the case, please be aware that the dates may change because these will be subject to the reviews that take place. Please note that, in order for us to ensure that children and adults can maintain social distancing, the maximum size of any group of children will be 10 and each group will work with two adults.

In summary, the children will return to school in the following order:

1. Children of key workers and children of families most in need of support in school.
2. Year 6 children. This group will find it much easier to understand and enact our key safety strategies (including social distancing) than our younger years.
3. Year 5 children.
4. The next oldest year group. We will continue to work our way through the school year groups in age order.

During the week of 1<sup>st</sup> June, school staff will undertake safety training and preparatory measures to ensure that the school is safe. Children currently attending the key worker childcare provision at Goose Green will still be able to attend during this week.

From Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June, the John Donne School building will re-open for children of key workers, as well as any children who we feel would benefit most from being in school. This will be offered to



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children in Reception to Year 6. This might be because we know they are finding it difficult to access the online learning, if their living conditions are not conducive to learning at home or for a whole host of other reasons. If we think that your child would benefit from starting school in this phase, we will contact you directly and discuss with you when your child might start school. If you are a key worker who will need your child to return to school, please email [office@jcademy.org.uk](mailto:office@jcademy.org.uk). We will also try to contact parents who have previously told us they are key workers.

At this time, we will be open between 9:00am and 3:15pm and will not be offering any breakfast or after school club provision. We will also not be offering a Nursery provision during the Summer Term.

We think that the older children are most likely to be able to understand and maintain social distancing measures. The following phase will, therefore, be to invite Year 6 children in from 15<sup>th</sup> June. We may stagger this start date throughout that week, dependent on staffing and demand.

Once Year 6 are established, other children will begin to be invited into school, a year group at a time. We will be in touch with as much notice as possible to invite your child to return to the school. We will also confirm with you the time that your child should come to school and when the school day will finish for them – we will be staggering the school day to ensure that we don't have too many people at the school gates at any one time.

Please know that there will be no 'pressure' from schools to return your child to school. We are fully aware that the situation is different for each family and there will be no repercussion should you choose to keep your child at home.

Please note that in order to maintain the safe measures that we are introducing, the capacity of the school will be much reduced. Capacity might be reached in many ways:

- We may not have the appropriate number of classrooms in school.
- We may not have the appropriate staffing.
- There may be too many children to fit in and maintain social distancing.

This will only become clear once children start returning to school and we know how many rooms and staff we will need.

I will be in touch with you as soon as I can to let you know when your child can return to school. In the meantime, if your child does not attend the school building, online learning will continue to be provided for your child in the way that it has been since the school closed. Children should continue to access this learning at home until such time as they are invited back to school. We will continue to review how we can best provide this online learning for your child and to develop this further as we move forward.

Please do not hesitate to contact the office email if you have any questions about what I have outlined in this letter. I will do my best to answer your questions as quickly as I can.

Stay safe and take care of yourselves and your loved ones.

With best wishes,



Jo Rooney  
Headteacher