



Exceed Learning Partnership

Edlington Lane
Edlington
Doncaster
DN12 1PL

Telephone: 01709 805175

'Innovative Education – Transforming Lives'

14th May 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

Letter from CEO

I am writing to update you on our plans to carefully open our academies from the indicative date of the 1st June 2020 after the Government announcement. The Government have not yet confirmed this date as the five tests have to be met, if they are to progress with the opening of schools.

At Exceed Learning Partnership, we are putting in place our local plans in order to ensure that we have the highest, possible, safety measures in place, in order to ensure that the risk of infection remains low, for both our pupils and members of staff. These are as follows:

- We will implement a **phased approach to opening**. This is to guarantee that we can test out the safety measures and adapt them, if required, to meet the needs of our pupils and staff.
 - 1st June: Year 6 pupils - alongside key worker children and vulnerable children
 - 8th June: Year 1 pupils will be phased in
 - 15th June: Reception pupils will be phased in
 - 22nd June: Nursery pupils will be phased in
- We will implement **staggered start times and staggered exit times**. This is to safeguard the number of people on the school site. Parents/carers are also asked not to congregate with each other near entrances or gateways to the school.
- We will implement **lower class sizes of no more than 15 pupils** but often less than this. These figures have been calculated on the size of the classroom and the allowance of a 4 sqm distance for each pupil. All classroom layouts will be revised to allow us to implement social distancing measures (**Very difficult to achieve with children**)
- We will implement **hygiene and cleaning measures** throughout the day. We will fit hand sanitisers in all classrooms. All tables will be frequently cleaned with new detergent products that we have purchased
- **Lunchtimes and break times** will be staggered and pupils will remain with the same pupils at playtimes in specifically zoned areas

- Pupils will have their own **equipment wallets** in Year 6 and Year 1. Equipment in reception and nursery will be streamlined and only equipment which can be regularly cleaned, will be used. For example: soft toys will be removed
- We have purchased **personal protective equipment** and staff will be given the option of wearing this, even though the Department for Education say this not required. All staff have personal hygiene equipment to use within the academy. For administering first-aid and for intimate care needs, staff will wear personal protective equipment
- All staff and pupils who are **clinically extremely vulnerable** and clinically vulnerable against the Government guidance, will work from home during this period and pupils will continue to learn remotely. This includes staff and pupils who live with people who are clinically vulnerable.
- We will implement **new routes for circulation** around the academy and zone areas to avoid cross-contamination. We have purchased new signage to support our pupils in being able to follow this. For example: Footprints on the floor. We will also ensure that windows remain open and we will use outdoor spaces as much as we can
- We will re-write our **risk assessments** for all areas of our building during Covid-19. We have also identified secure areas that we will use if any pupil or staff member is taken ill or shows signs of the symptoms
- We will implement **Health & Safety training** for all staff prior to the academy opening. This will also involve behaviour management training, from the CEO, so that teachers are planning for circulation within the classrooms during learning time
- We will implement a **new model of curriculum development and learning** which will focus on the social, emotional and mental health needs of all our learners to ensure that we can provide safety and security for our pupils. We will also implement lessons to support reducing anxiety for our pupils
- We will have to adapt some of our provision due to staffing levels. This may involve breakfast and after school clubs, as well as some pupils rotating the time when they are in the academy. All this depends on the numbers of pupils who attend school

I appreciate that some parents may not want to send their child to school and this is entirely your choice, however I hope the above measures provide you with some reassurance, that we are working so hard to make our academies, as safe as they possible can be, during this time. I also appreciate that some parents may be disappointed that we cannot open the academies straight away to all pupils. This however would be unsafe, for both our pupils and staff and therefore the Directors want to follow the Government advice, which is asking us to implement **carefully, controlled measures**.

In order to support our planning, we need to calculate the numbers of pupils who will be attending therefore I have attached a survey, which I am urging you to fill in and return to the academy, so we can evaluate pupil numbers. This will really help us to ensure that we have the staffing ratios to support the opening of the academy.

Thank you for your continued support during these unprecedented times.

Yours sincerely



Beryce Nixon
CEO



John Blount
Chair of Directors