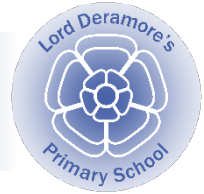




Lord Deramore's Primary School



School Lane, Heslington, York, YO10 5EE

Tel: 01904 553890

Email. lordderamores.primary@york.gov.uk

Wednesday 27th May 2020

Dear parents and carers,

Following lengthy discussions with the senior leadership team, governing body, the local authority and school staff, we are now in a position to identify our plans to further reopen Lord Deramore's Primary School to more children.

- **NO** children should attend school on Monday 1st June. This includes key worker and vulnerable families currently accessing our emergency childcare provision.
- From Tuesday 2nd June, we will provide educational provision for children of newly-confirmed key workers and those deemed to be vulnerable (named social worker and/or an Education Health Care Plan)
- From Monday 8th June, subject to capacity, we aim to provide educational provision for any Early Years and Year 1 children whose parents/carers request a place.
- At some point in July, we hope to provide some Year 6 provision. This will be dependent on further staffing capacity and some relaxation of the stringent protective measures introduced by the government to keep schools safe.
- School will be closed on Wednesdays for the vast majority of eligible children.

All eligible parents and carers (Key Workers, Early Years and Y1 children) requiring a place over the next fortnight, are required to submit an application form *per child* using the link below - **before midnight on 31st May 2020**. Any families currently accessing our emergency childcare provision **must** resubmit an application.

Application form link: <https://forms.gle/NhAWyMqXuLDxo4mu5>

If parents and carers do not wish to take up a place during this application round, they will be more than welcome to request a place via email at any time, giving us seven days' notice to plan appropriately. School email: lordderamores.primary@york.gov.uk

All places will be confirmed on Monday 1st June by 2pm. If you have not heard from us before then, please email school urgently.

Attached is a detailed guide regarding the current plans and situation, including answers to some questions which you may have. Further instructions regarding daily logistics will be sent out to parents/carers as part of the place allocation letter.

Thank you for your continued understanding and support during this difficult time.

Best wishes,

James Rourke
Headteacher

Who do you plan to extend school provision for at Lord Deramore's?

We currently plan to provide for the following groups within the next fortnight:

- Vulnerable children (those with an EHCP or a named social worker)
- Key/critical worker families
- Early Years
- Year 1

We have an aspiration to provide some provision for our current Year 6 children in July.

If my child is in one of these eligible groups, do I have to send them into school?

No. We recognise that everybody has different views and opinions on the current situation. Parents and carers therefore have the option of sending their children into school during the current Covid-19 pandemic. The school and local authority will not be monitoring attendance in the same way as they usually do. No penalty notices would be issued.

How do parents/carers secure a place in the provision?

All parents/carers of eligible children **who wish to be allocated a place** are required to submit an online application form by midnight on Sunday 31st May. All parents/carers who are currently accessing the key worker/vulnerable provision **must re-submit an application**.

The place application form is available via the following link:

<https://forms.gle/NhAWyMqXuLDxo4mu5>

If you are having difficulty accessing this link, please email lordderamores.primary@york.gov.uk to notify us of your request.

All applications and allocations will be confirmed by 2pm on Monday 1st June. If you have not heard from us by this time, please email us urgently.

When will the provision start?

NO children should attend school on Monday 1st June – this includes current key worker and vulnerable children who will return on **Tuesday 2nd June** after their place has been re-confirmed by school.

Early Years & Year 1 provision will begin on **Monday 8th June**. If a child is in one of these year groups but also qualifies for key worker provision, they can begin on Tuesday 2nd June but will move into their actual year group set ('bubbles') once they start operating.

We aspire to introduce some Year 6 provision by July if social distancing guidance is relaxed and we have further staffing capacity. This provision will be particularly tailored towards preparing children for secondary school.

Pupils in other year groups (Y2-Y5) should remain at home for the foreseeable until a government decision is made about even further reopening.

	w/c TUESDAY 2 nd June	w/c Monday 8 th June	July
Key Worker & Vulnerable	Key Worker and Vulnerable Children (4/5 days per week)		
Early Years	Remain at home	Early Years Children (4 days per week)	
Year 1		Year 1 Children (4 days per week)	
Year 6	Remain at home		Year 6 Children
Other Pupils	Remain at home until government decide about further reopening for other year groups		

Which days and times would my child be offered school provision?

School will be open for confirmed key worker and vulnerable children throughout the week. We are only accepting key worker/vulnerable children on a Wednesday, however, if there is **no safe alternative** for childcare.

In line with government guidance, deep cleans of the school will be taking place every Wednesday and staff will have release time in order to plan and prepare home learning resources and curriculum newsletters for children learning remotely at home.

In order to secure good social distancing practice, we have staggered start and finish times for the different groups. If you have children in more than one group, all your children should attend at the earliest allocated time and leave at the latest time. For example, if you have a child in Y1 but also in the Key Worker/Vulnerable group, then you should **all** arrive for 8.45am and depart at 3.15pm. Drop-offs and collections should take place at classroom doors. Families are advised to adhere to social distancing when arriving.

	Mondays	Tuesdays	Wednesdays	Thursdays	Fridays
Key Worker & Vulnerable	8.45am – 3.15pm	8.45am – 3.15pm	8.45am – 3.15pm <i>exceptional circumstances</i>	8.45am – 3.15pm	8.45am – 3.15pm
Early Years	9.30am – 2.30pm	9.30am – 2.30pm	Remain at home	9.30am – 2.30pm	9.30am – 2.30pm
Year 1	9.15am – 2.45pm	9.15am – 2.45pm		9.15am – 2.45pm	9.15am – 2.45pm
Other Pupils	Remain at home				

What is the school’s proposed timetable, inc. staff deployment and group location?

Group / ‘Bubble’	Location	Staffing
Key Worker & Vulnerable – Group 1	Year 2 Classroom	Teacher Teacher
Key Worker & Vulnerable – Group 2	Year 3 Classroom	Teacher plus external sports coach
Early Years – Group 1	Early Years Classroom	Teaching Assistant

		Teaching Assistant
Early Years – Group 2	Year 6 Classroom	Teacher Teaching Assistant
Year 1 – Group 1	Year 1 Classroom	Teacher Teaching Assistant
Year 1 – Group 2	Year 5 Classroom	Teacher Teaching Assistant

Each group would have a maximum of fifteen children.

It is important for you to be aware that some staff have been advised by their doctor to medically shield or are living with somebody who is classed as vulnerable. These staff will therefore be carrying out other duties and are unavailable for classroom deployment.

Why is the additional provision starting from Monday 8th June?

The government has left their announcement/decision until only a few working days before they would like to see more children return. Before we open for Early Years / Year 1 children, we require adequate time to:

- confirm staffing availability (particularly with any colleagues advised by their unions to wait for further clarification from the government)
- confirm final demand from parents/carers so we can organise groups
- inform parents/carers that they have been allocated a place
- organise accommodation and resources
- await the delivery of some PPE (personal protective equipment) and cleaning materials
- ensure all staff are fully briefed and trained in the recommended protective measures as outlined in the government's guidance

School will be closed for **all pupils** on Monday 1st June and re-confirmed key worker/vulnerable children will begin on Tuesday 2nd June.

Why can't you accommodate Year 6 straight away?

Whilst we have the accommodation to cater for some Year 6 children, we do not currently have the staffing capacity to cater for any more groups. In line with government guidance, each group is limited to a maximum of fifteen children and should ideally have two adults due to safeguarding implications and the need to release staff for breaks/lunch. We also need to ensure that we can still cover provision if a member of staff is absent from work due to self-isolation or illness.

We are desperate for our Year 6 children to return to Lord Deramore's in some shape or form before the official summer holidays. This is why we have indicated an *aspiration* to see some provision being offered in July.

If I request a place for my child (and are allocated one), do they have to attend every timetabled day?

Yes. If your child is allocated a place, we would expect that they attend each day their group is running (unless they are poorly or self-isolating). This includes key

worker/vulnerable children who, up until now, have been allowed flexible access to the provision. Key worker/vulnerable children should, however, not attend on a Wednesday if there is a safe alternative for childcare.

Who can apply for the key worker provision?

Guidance on the government's critical and key worker provision can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision>

Eligible families can apply for key worker provision using the school's next online form, which will be sent out on Thursday 28th and must be returned by midnight on Sunday 31st May. Confirmatory evidence may be required from your employees. Allocation emails will be sent out on Monday 1st June and your child would be able to start the provision on Tuesday 2nd June.

If I decide to not request a place for my eligible Early Years / Year 1 child, can I change my mind?

Yes. In order to plan appropriately and safely however, we would require parents to give school one weeks' notice if they decide to change their mind about sending their child to school. Requests for places after the 31st May application deadline, should be emailed to lordderamosprimary@york.gov.uk. We will confirm start dates once your email is received.

Will my child receive a school lunch?

Our caterers, Caterlink, will be providing 'grab bag' picnic lunches for any pupils requiring one. Children in Early Years and Year 1 plus those who are in receipt of Free School Meals will not be charged. The normal charge of £2.30 will be made for children in other year groups requesting a lunch. Families are welcome to provide their own packed lunches if desired.

My child is in receipt of Pupil Premium (Free School Meals), will I continue to receive online supermarket vouchers?

We have made a decision to continue paying for the supermarket vouchers until the end of the summer term, even if one or all of your children attend the provision and are provided with a free 'grab bag'. This is because children will usually not be attending on a Wednesday and we acknowledge that the current lockdown situation will be placing financial pressure on many of our families.

Please remember that all families who suddenly become eligible for the Pupil Premium (due to redundancy or a drop in family income or circumstances) should make an application via City of York Council. Details can be found here: <https://www.york.gov.uk/SchoolMeals>

What will children who attend school be doing?

Children who attend school will be completing the same learning activities as outlined in the weekly curriculum newsletters. Some support for reading and basic number work will also take place, alongside opportunities for social interaction, appropriate play and emotional wellbeing work.

What protective measures are being put in place?

Our plans and risk assessments are lengthy and very detailed. They have been put in place to protect all children, families and staff and are in line with the recommendations of the government as advised by Public Health England. Key measures include:

- Children and staff being allocated within separate “bubbles” (groups) which do not interact with other groups. They will have their own classrooms/areas, their own resources and separate outside times/spaces during playtimes. Lunch will be eaten in the classroom.
- All children and staff who become symptomatic will be sent home to self-isolate for seven days and will be required to access a Covid-19 test. Children may only return upon a confirmed negative result.
- Entire “Bubbles” (groups) which have had a confirmed case will be required to stay off school and self-isolate for fourteen days. This includes the key worker/vulnerable provision.

We acknowledge that there are varying degrees of anxiety amongst the general public when it comes to the potential risks of Covid-19. Our measures will therefore always be led by the guidance of central government, the local authority and Public Health England. They will naturally be relaxed whenever we are told it is safe to do so.

Will children still be able to play with their peers?

There are many different ways children can play. Whilst we will be discouraging physical interaction, we will still provide opportunities for children to play in a socially-distanced and safe manner.

Can I ensure that my child is placed with their friends?

We will aim, where possible, to place children within their friendship groups. Early Years and Year 1 staff will be deciding on the groupings. They will use their own personal knowledge of children’s friendship groups to ensure that your child has at least some of their normal friends within their group. We cannot guarantee this however as some families may not wish their child to attend. Once the groups are set, we would be unable to change children unless the government relax their recommended protective measures.

Will my child have their usual class teacher?

Possibly. However, due to the restrictions on the number of children per group, we cannot guarantee that your child would have their normal class teacher. We also cannot guarantee that they will have a qualified teacher working with their group. We hope you appreciate however that all of our staff are very experienced and that we will deploy staff in the most effective way as possible.