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St John Vianney Catholic Primary School

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FAQ for parents/carers

Return to face-to-face education from Wednesday 21st June 2023

Can I keep my child at home and access online learning?

Online learning will no longer to be offered other than to children in Y1, Y2 and Y3 who are on the home learning rota. All other children are expected to attend school and be taught by SJV staff.

Can my children access their belongings from their classroom?

At this present moment, the main school building is closed to all pupils and staff. It would not be possible for anyone to enter to collect items belonging to them.

Why has temporary accommodation such as portakabins not been made available?

Whilst this is a temporary solution in some instances, it takes time to source and transport enough mobile units for a whole school community. This temporary accommodation then needs access to utilities such as power, water and sewerage which will take a number of weeks to organise. Our priority has been to get pupils back to face-to-face teaching as quickly as possible.

Is there provision for Key Worker children?

The guidance issued by the Government during the Covid-19 pandemic does not apply in this instance. Parts of the school building is closed for health and safety reasons and cannot be accessed until it is made safe.

What provision will there be if my child has an Educational Health and Care Plan and there is a concern I need to discuss?

Pupils continue to be taught in their class groups with staff they are familiar with however, please email our school office@stjohnvianneynewcastle.org and mark your email for the attention of our SENDCo, Mrs Watanabe if you have any queries, she will be in touch as soon as possible.

Will my child be mixing with pupils from the other schools?

Although there will be some Y12 pupils at the sixth form, Years 4 and 5 will have separate break times and lunchtimes, using Sacred Heart Primary School's field. Our pupils will be with SJV staff at all times and walked over to the field and observed by SJV staff. We will be operating as a 'self-contained' group within a separate block of the building. Pupils from the two other schools will not mix on the playground or field.



St John Vianney Catholic Primary School is part of the Bishop Bewick Catholic Education Trust (BBCET) company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales under company registration number No 7841435.
Registered Office: Fenham Hall Drive, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE4 9YH.

Year 6 pupils at West Denton Community Centre will have playtimes and lunchtimes at St John Vianney and will be walked to and from the buildings by SJV staff.

Will my child be taught by staff they don't know?

All pupils will remain in their year groups but some senior staff will not always be able to teach their own classes as we need to be able to staff the multiple sites safely, but all children will be taught by existing St John Vianney staff member, who will be familiar to pupils.

What happens if my child is ill and needs to be collected from the school they are temporarily being educated at?

St. John Vianney staff will phone parents and ask them to pick up their child from their allocated school site.

Do I ring Sacred Heart High School or St John Vianney to speak to staff about my child?

Please ring St John Vianney school office number: 0191 2672233 and your call will be transferred through to St John Vianney office staff. Please DO NOT ring the Sacred Heart school number.

All parental conversations should go through St John Vianney School school number 01912672233 which will be manned during school hours Monday - Friday. Outside of these hours, please send an email to office@stjohnvianneynewcastle.org as this main email is being closely monitored.

What happens if my children are split across 3 different locations?

All pupils will be registered, dropped off and collected from St. John Vianney Primary School. Drop off and pick up times are all detailed in the parental information letter.

Does my child still wear their uniform?

Yes. St. John Vianney pupils MUST wear their full uniform to identify them.

Will PE still be taught?

Yes. PE lessons will still be taught. However, this may be delivered on different days than our original timetable. We will aim to inform parents of this as soon as possible. Pupils based at St John Vianney may come to school dressed in appropriate PE kit on their PE day (School kits are currently in school and cannot be accessed), but pupils learning on other sites MUST wear school uniform every day and change for PE.

Will the children still be able to take part in all of the end of term activities that school had planned?

We will inform parents as soon as possible of any changes in dates if any activities need to be rescheduled or cancelled. Further information will follow, but Year 6 are still actively working towards all of their end of term celebrations, it may just mean the venue will change.

Will the Year 6 residential on the school field take place on Thursday 22nd and Friday 23rd?

Yes, staff are still planning to run this and stay overnight in tents with your children on the school field and using the UKS2 block which has no RAAC in it.

Will the Y5 swimming lessons be rescheduled?

Although we have had to cancel some of the sessions, we are working with Gosforth Pool so that some sessions can still go ahead.

What will my child do for lunch?

All parents need to provide their children with a packed lunch each day. All parents who are in receipt of free school meals, will receive a weekly voucher via email / text through the normal channels. We are still in the final planning stages of working out how to offer Universal Free School Meals for Rec, Year 1 and Year 2 – more details will follow.