



Dayananda Sagar International School

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LETTER TO PARENTS

Subject: "Reopening of Schools – Is it a must or Not?"

DEAR PARENTS,

With the fear of children getting infection looming large in the minds of young parents having wards going to Nursery and Lower primary classes, I see them becoming skeptical and deciding not to send them to the school for this year.

1. They often say "Sir, this year let my children learn only at home and be safe. One year in one's life doesn't matter at all. He is not now going to write IAS exam". On the other hand there is a sizable population of parents especially where in both the daddy and mummy are going for work, are in great despair and exasperation and looking out for the day when the schools will reopen.

2. When they come to meet, only questions asked to me are about the Two-meter rule, Class room bubbles and pupil caps. With great compassion and patience, I answer them and these were already put-up as "FAQs" on our "WEB Notice Board" on 18th June-2020. Please read. For me, Yes! Safety of the students is of paramount importance. Given that, children must return to the school at the earliest as they are the ONLY group losing out a lot more than others in the lockdown. You and the Nation cannot afford it. Remember! Growth and development of children's minds take place by day and not by month or year. Children at home can learn at maximum arithmetic and languages. That is not "Education" at all. Many other facets of education that can be learned by "Schooling" only are therefore lost.

Socialization: Students learn what it means to be a part of a class / society. They learn how to line-up, taking turns, sharing and caring, listening and following to teachers instructions that may not make them happy in the moment. But these are the lifelong skills they need.



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Diversity and Security: Students learn that each child is unique but they are different in many ways like colour, hair, height, aptitudes etc. But in school they learn to appreciate this and work and enjoy together. It is only in the school Environment; they first learn to feel secured outside their homes.

Responsibilities and self-sufficiency: Students learn to keep their desks clean, pick up their sports gears, and do “jobs” like switching off lights while going to recess, wiping tables after snacks, being a line leader amid many others. They learn how to wipe their nose, wash their hands, zip their trousers, and open their lunch boxes and other day to day things. This alone leads them to be confident, independent and successful later in their lives.

Good manners and Activities: They learn a lot and practice “golden words” like “Please” and “thank You”, asking for forgiveness etc. when needed. They learn & practice music, dance, debating, public speaking, ethics and values, rules and regulations, organized games, sportsmanship, mind and body coordination etc.

3. Therefore, If your child does not attend the school for a long period, certainly the growth and development of his mind gets dwarfed beyond any doubt and one’s imagination. Resulting gap in the inequalities between the students attending and not attending school gets widened and it surely affects their mental health leading to sadness, frustration, bad behavior and developing wrong posture and eating habits etc. Where else he can get the needed peer stimulation, their encouragement, and also the admonitions of his teacher once in a while other than in his school?

Let us not contribute to the “Attainment gaps”, dwarfed growth & development of minds and the psychological wrecks in our children. Let us pray for reopening of the school and rejoicing the chatters and stories from the school to be told by the children.

Regards

Sd/-

Principal