



**Know myself. Respond to my world.**  
**Connect with my community.**

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Friday 28<sup>th</sup> August

I do hope you have managed to enjoy a good summer break during July and August, and your families are well. You will remember I wrote to you on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> July to describe some of the actions we will be taking to ensure our school setting is ready to reopen in a safe way for all of our pupils, staff and visitors. You may wish to reread this letter (found on our website under 'Coronavirus' tab or follow the link below)

<https://www.raysfield.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Re-opening-Letter-to-Parents-14.07.20.pdf>

The government guidance is clear in that it allows schools to consider their own context in deciding how to plan for their own reopening. At Raysfield, we cannot wait to have all our children back; we're excited to see all of you and have spent a lot of time preparing our environment and some very exciting and fun lessons so we can all enjoy and succeed at school again.

The purpose of this letter is to provide a clear explanation of how we will ensure your children are safe at school, whilst keeping school as normal as possible.

#### How will the school day start?

- Parents are strongly encouraged to walk their children to school, and where possible park a distance away and walk to the site. This will support us in avoiding congestion on the site. **Please observe social distancing when lining up.**
- Each year group bubble will have a designated entry door. A video explaining where this is will be posted on Class Dojo next week - please ensure you know the name of your child's class in order to view this. **Class Dojo will be updated by Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> September with new year group names.**
- Parents are also encouraged to wear face coverings/ masks when they bring their child to school.
- In order to reduce the number of people on site, please can we request only **one parent to bring their child/children to school.**
- Communications with teachers need to be via dojo, email or by appointment rather than face to face at the start of the day.
- Arrive at the school on time to drop off and collect your child. There is slightly staggered start and finish times to reduce congestion on the school site.
- People gathering on the school site will be asked politely to move on, unless you are waiting for a class to be dismissed.

	EYFS Hedgehog and Fox Class	KEY STAGE ONE Squirrel, Mouse, Badger and Rabbit Class	KEY STAGE TWO Finch, Robin, Kingfisher, Kestrel, Mallard, Heron, Goldcrest and Merlin Class		
	RECEPTION	YEARS 1 & 2	YEAR 3 & 4	YEAR 5	YEAR 6
START TIME	9:00	8:45	8:55	8:45	8:45
FINISH TIME	3:15	3:15	3:20	3:15	3:15

[www.raysfield.org.uk](http://www.raysfield.org.uk)

### **How will school be different for my child?**

- All children will be grouped into bubbles. These will largely be in their year groups; however, these may be expanded to two year groups (no more) for specific times of the day such as lunchtime.
- Each year group bubble will have designated toilets to use when they are on our site.
- Resources will be cleaned regularly after use and enhanced cleaning of areas throughout the day will occur.
- Children will have their own equipment and their desks will largely be facing forward.
- Playtimes will be staggered and there will be a designated play space for all bubbles.
- Regular and effective hygiene will become a part of our everyday routines.
- We will be having PE lessons from w/c 14<sup>th</sup> September, on these days the children will be allowed to wear their Raysfield PE kit to school (please ensure this meets the school's uniform policy).
- There will not be any whole school or Key Stage assemblies taking place in the hall.
- Breakfast Club will be available, but places must be booked in advanced. The hall will be divided into Key Stage groups in order to maintain minimal contacts.

### **SCHOOL LUNCHES**

- There will be a full offer of hot meals at lunchtime. Some of our year groups will eat in the dining hall. This will be Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 (this will be at staggered times with cleaning in between sittings). In key stage 2 (Years 3, 4, 5, 6) children will eat in their classrooms. We have taken this decision based on how best we can manage the cleaning and support of our children during their lunch.
- You will select and pay for your lunches in the normal way using the Parent Pay system. Any queries regarding this please email the office [office@raysfield.org.uk](mailto:office@raysfield.org.uk)

### **How can I help to prepare my child?**

- Please do talk with your child about the detail in this letter so they know what to expect. I have also attached a social story from e-bug, which explains the 'Bubble approach' we hope you find it helpful in talking with your child.
- Every day we ask that you check your child's temperature before you leave for school. Please do not bring your child to school, if they are unwell with a high temperature and/or continuous cough.

Due to the stringent measures in place to prevent the spread of COVID-19 additional safety precautions have been placed in schools. These include:

- Limited visits to the site. At the moment, it is unlikely we will be having any parents in class to help, although we will review this as the term progresses as we very much value your support and involvement. We do have a procedure for visitors which enables them to be COVID secure but less contact is advised at this time.
- On the advice of the Local Authority, swimming lessons have been paused.

The government has produced some guidance for parents on school's reopening and some of the links within the document are useful to clarify questions you may have.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-in-the-autumn-term>

South Gloucestershire council would also recommend parents and carers watching this video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BVyyMjxGQSA&feature=youtu.be>

We know you may have many other questions regarding what might happen if there were to be an outbreak of COVID locally, or even within our school. Here are a couple of frequently asked questions that may help you to understand the school's position in this scenario:

**1. What will happen to the bubble if a child is sent home unwell with COVID symptoms?**

If a child is unwell in school with symptoms related to COVID (high temperature / continuous cough) a member of staff will look after your child safely (they may wear PPE). We will take them to a comfortable first aid room away from other children and staff; parents will be called to collect their child and asked to seek a COVID 19 test as soon as possible. The areas the child has had contact with will be deep cleaned.

- **If the test returns POSITIVE** the bubble will close for 14 days. All areas will be deep cleaned.
- **If the test returns NEGATIVE** the child will stay off school until they are well again. However, if symptoms persist it is important parents continue to seek medical guidance and support from their GP. This applies to any symptoms that causes your child distress or discomfort; please do continue to use our medical services. The bubble will not close until the case is confirmed or our risk assessment would deem it necessary.

**2. What will happen to a bubble if a sibling of a child is confirmed positive with COVID 19?**

The bubble will remain open, but the sibling will stay at home and self-isolate with the family members. If then the sibling becomes a confirmed case, their bubble will be closed.

**3. Will all members of the household have to self-isolate if a member of the house has COVID symptoms?**

Members of the household do not need to self-isolate, until the case is confirmed. The school will request a test is taken as soon as possible. Every case will be treated individually and therefore it may be advisable to isolate the household.

**4. Does the school have to report COVID cases?**

The school, via the Local Authority, is working closely with Public Health South West. We have been sent lots of information including clear flow charts on what do to with suspected and confirmed cases. We have been given advice on what do to if children return to school with symptoms and a test is not taken, and how we can work with families to maintain everyone's safety. **Please be reassured we will not be taking any risks with pupil, staff and visitor safety.**

**5. Will the school test my child for COVID 19?**

**The school will not be testing children.** The school is being sent some home-testing kits to give out, if necessary. However, the preferred and (as we understand it) quicker method of testing is to go to the test center at Bristol Airport.

If you still have unanswered questions, which you would like clarified prior to the Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September when your child is due to return, please complete the survey monkey below and I will produce a FAQ sheet for our community next Friday 4<sup>th</sup> September.

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/K6YGR2R>

**Team Raysfield** are very much looking forward to seeing all of you and I am hoping the information provided here has given you the reassurance to send your children back to Raysfield with confidence. Our preparation process has been thorough and we have a comprehensive risk assessment, which has been passed and understood by the Local Authority, our Governing Body and staff. Your children's education is incredibly important to us and we are looking forward to doing what we do best: caring, educating and inspiring our young learners to become the great people they are!

*We look forward to seeing you all on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September*

*Mrs Claire Hill and the whole Raysfield Team ☺*