

Rokesly Infant and Nursery School

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At Rokesly...

Our community is warm and welcoming

Learning is fun and fascinating

We celebrate the things that make us special

We challenge ourselves to go further

♥ WELCOME BACK TO ROKESLY ♥

Starting back to school September 2020

Dear Year 1 Parents / Carers

Friday 4th September 2020

I hope you and your families are all well and have enjoyed a restful summer break.

We have had a very busy week in school, preparing for the start of the term and making sure all practical measures have been put into place to provide a safe, friendly and welcoming environment for our new children and families.

A full risk assessment is available to families on the school website in the

All the measures we are putting in place at Rokesly are to make sure the chance of transmission of the virus is minimised with as little disruption to learning as possible. Our measures include:

- a requirement that people who are ill stay at home
- robust hand and respiratory hygiene
- enhanced cleaning arrangements
- active engagement with NHS Test and Trace

The latest Government guidance states that:

To ensure we identify those with coronavirus while avoiding a huge increase in demand for tests from people without coronavirus symptoms, we ask that you recommend to your pupils, students and staff who feel unwell, that they **only get tested** if:

- they develop one or more of the main coronavirus symptoms:
a high temperature - a new, continuous cough - the loss or change of their sense of taste or smell, or
- they are recommended to get tested by a healthcare provider (e.g. GP or nurse)

If a pupil, student or staff member develops one or more of the main coronavirus symptoms described above, only they should be tested. There is **no need** for their households to have a test, unless they are also symptomatic. As schools and colleges across England return, pupils and students may feel unwell for example with a sore throat, stomach upset or a headache. These pupils and students don't need to book a test but **may need to stay off school** or college and seek medical advice through their GP or pharmacist as usual.

It is vitally important that you always make sure you call the school to let us know if your child is unwell, or unable to attend school for any reason.

To reduce contacts and maximise distancing between people in Rokesly school we will continue to:

- group children and staff together in year groups and class groups during the school day
- avoid contact between groups wherever possible - including having separate playgrounds
- arrange classrooms to maximise space

Some staff may be wearing protective masks and visors in school, especially in inside areas where social distancing is not possible. Parents may choose to wear masks at the school gate and will be required to wear one if they come to the office.

As you can probably imagine, re-arranging the school day to ensure that all the effective measures are in place has been difficult and complicated. To allow for a staggered entry and exit for every class, we have had to reduce the length of our lunchtime to ensure that no learning time has been lost. This means that with a staggered start, your child's school day will appear slightly shorter.

When we return, the children will still have a slightly staggered start in the mornings and at pick-up to reduce congestion at the school entrances. The grid below explains how this staggered approach will work in the Year 1 classes.

- **Year 1** children will arrive at school through the main school entrance gate.

	Orange	Rainbow	Green
Start time	8.55	9.05	9.15
Entrance	Main entrance gate Y1 fire door	Main entrance gate Y2 fire door	Main entrance gate Y1 fire door
Lunch	12-1pm Lunch		
End of day	3pm	3.10	3.20

Punctuality is going to be extremely important to help the start and end of school run smoothly. **Please make sure you are always on time.**

We are very keen to ensure that good communication between staff and parents is possible. Classroom staff will be on the gate every day to welcome the children. This is a great opportunity to talk to staff and share information about your child. If you need to arrange a longer meeting with a member of staff, you can arrange this by emailing the office at the address at the top of this letter.

In addition to this, we are looking into how we will manage meetings and conferences with you remotely so that you receive all the information you need about your child's curriculum and learning. Curriculum meetings are already planned for this half term and details will be sent to you soon.

Normal lunch arrangements will resume. The menu has been simplified to help us manage lunchtimes efficiently. The **menu** is available for you to share with your child from the school website.

The government plans to reintroduce the fruit scheme and all infant children will receive their daily piece of fruit from next Wednesday. Please **don't send in snacks** with your child.

At this time, we are in discussion with the, the YMCA about resuming their breakfast and after school clubs. They will be conducting a parent survey soon.

We are currently in discussions with providers to reinstate our year group clubs as soon as possible. Clubs, such as our Spanish, French and sports clubs, which run from the end of school to 4.30 will start for Year 1 in the next few weeks and I will send you more details as soon as I am able.

What your child needs for their first day

When your child arrives at school on their start date, they will **only** need:

Appropriate clothes and shoes for the weather and for active and messy learning. Please **label** your child's clothes with **name** and **class**.

A labelled water bottle.

If your child had a **book bag** last year, please return them, with your child's comment book, on your first day. If you have lost a book bag, we have a small number of second hand book bags in school, or new bags are available to be purchased from the school office. Reading books will be organised for home reading as soon as possible from the start of term.

Your child may be excited or anxious about returning to school. Please take the time to listen and talk, and to discuss the new arrangements with them.

I am really looking forward to welcoming our Rokesly families back to school and we are all especially excited to see our Rainbow, Green and Orange class friends.

Best wishes

Grant Bright
Head teacher