



# Ryhill Junior, Infant & Nursery School

Together we can achieve

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Headteacher: Mrs E. Jones

10<sup>th</sup> July 2020

Dear Parents / Carers,

## The full opening of school from the 7<sup>th</sup> September

I am now in a position to share our plans for the re-opening of school from **Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September**. Given the improved position, the balance of risk is now overwhelmingly in favour of children returning to school. For the vast majority of children, the benefits of being back in school far outweigh the very low risk from coronavirus (COVID-19). As a result, we can plan for all children to return and start to reverse the enormous costs of missed education. This will be an important move back towards normal life for many children and families.

We have closely followed the government's guidance and have considered and prepared plans. The government acknowledge that all schools are different, and it is not possible for them to set specific national guidelines that could be universally applicable. The safety of our staff, pupils and the local community remains our priority and we have attempted to adopt a common-sense approach to minimise risk as much as possible.

In welcoming all children back this autumn, we will minimise the number of contacts that a pupil has during the school day as part of implementing a system of controls outlined below to reduce the risk of transmission.

Precautions we will be taking to limit the risk of the virus spreading 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
- reduce contacts and maximise distancing between those in school wherever possible and minimise potential for contamination so far as is reasonably practicable
- grouping children together in their class 'bubble'
- avoiding unnecessary contact between classes 'bubbles'
- staff maintaining distance from pupils and other staff as much as possible
- Staggering break times, and pick-up and drop-off times for different year groups

Taking these points into consideration, the table below sets out our staggered start and finish times for when we return in autumn.

Year group	Start time	Finish time (Monday to Thursday)	Friday finish time
Year 5 and 6	8.15	14.45	12.30
Year 3 and 4	8.30	15.00	12.45
Year 1 and 2	8.45	15.15	13.00
Reception	8.45	15.15	13.00
Nursery	8.30 (start of morning session) 12.15 (start of afternoon session)	11.30 (end of morning session) 15.15 (end of afternoon session)	

**Please note that it is vitally important that you arrive on time for your child's drop off / pick up time in order to avoid congregating at the school gates.**

We plan to operate a breakfast club between 7.45am and 8.45am, however this will have to be limited numbers, with a priority for key workers initially, and also pre-booked via the school office.

In addition to the above we recognise that many children will feel anxious about their return to school, please be reassured that we will be implementing a thorough programme of mental health and well being activities for children to take part in daily. However if you feel your child may struggle on their return to school please feel free to contact your class teacher who will be more than happy to help.

More specific information for each year group will be placed on your child's class Dojo page.

Kind regards,

Mrs E. Jones

Headteacher