



The Ryde School

Pleasant Rise, Hatfield, Herts, AL9 5DR

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Headteacher: Mrs Sue Thompson

18th November 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you are well and keeping safe.

I would just like to share with you a report we have received about our procedures and protocols in trying to prevent COVID-19 in our school. I was aware that the NHS were pleased to make visits to schools to suggest improvements to preventative strategies and cleaning routines. I am pleased to share some of the report with you.

Introduction:

A lovely well maintained Primary school run amazingly by Mrs Thompson. Maintained to an exceptional standard throughout. Very well run and maintained and keen to work with us the NHS on a few areas that were discussed. Very well planned out classrooms and all very COVID-19 secured. The protocols here are brilliant and they seem to have thought of everything and have invested heavily in making the appropriate changes that are required through the outbreak(s).

Positive Highlights:

Excellent primary school, very clean with motivated and friendly staff who are putting the safety of everyone in the school as a priority. Mrs Thompson should be commended on the brilliant efforts her and her staff have gone to in the design and implementation on protocols required. They have gone above and beyond in their efforts.

Observations:

They do not fog at present, however do use large fine mist sprayers to mimic a fog reaction. They are also using the 'spray and dwell' technique with disinfectant. Mrs Thompson was also very interested in the Pathisol product - specifically the disinfectant to use for cleaning and general use throughout due to it carrying no COSHH rating as well as the general ease of use.

Suggestions:

The introduction of Pathisol NHS disinfectant to use in and around the classrooms, building and dining areas etc. integrated into the 30 day delivery service due to its 30 day shelf life as it contains no buffers or stabilisers which back up the zero COSHH rating making the Pathisol very user friendly particularly with children, staff and high contact areas.

Summary:

It was a pleasure to meet the team here and chat in depth with Mrs Thompson. They are doing an excellent job, I wish them well and I'm here as their direct point of contact for continuing ongoing support, advice and guidance.

It is reassuring to hear that we are doing everything we can to keep our school COVID-19 safe.

We have had the following notification from Hertfordshire County Council:

Primary school closures

There have now been a significant number of primary schools that have needed to close as a result of a high number of staff needing to self-isolate as they are either a positive case or they are a close contact of another staff member who has tested positive for coronavirus.

We know that COVID-19 is prevalent in the community, and how hard you are working to reduce the transmission of the virus in schools. We can't eliminate it, only mitigate it.



To help prevent a situation of cross contamination between staff members happening at our school the staff are trying very hard to socially distance throughout the day. We now have three smaller staff rooms where staff can safely socially distance while having their breaks. This should minimise the chances of staff passing on the virus should they have to self-isolate.

We keep face to face meetings to a minimum and where they do happen it is in a well ventilated space where there is always space to socially distance.

We continue to restrict the number of visitors on site, and are even stricter on the number of visitors that can enter the building. Most professionals have contact virtually unless they need to see a child.

We will continue to be vigilant and also to be open to any advice or guidance that can improve our practices and protocols.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sue Thompson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mrs Sue Thompson