



# The Ryde School

Pleasant Rise, Hatfield, Herts, AL9 5DR

01707 267333 | [www.ryde.herts.sch.uk](http://www.ryde.herts.sch.uk)

Headteacher: Mrs Sue Thompson

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers of Reception Class,

It has been a challenge for us to organise the safe reopening of the school. We will be taking a phased approach, ensuring children are welcomed back in a way that will support their mental health and well-being. Therefore, initially, we will be opening the school only to Reception Class children on 1<sup>st</sup> June.

To facilitate a safe environment for children, staff and parents, the class will be divided into two groups. These classes will be named Reception - Buttercup and Reception – Daisy. Buttercup Class will be in the Reception classroom and Daisy Class will be in the usual Year 1 classroom. Buttercup Class will have Miss Sainsbury/Ms Haverson (3 days) and Miss Tuck (2 days) as their teachers and Daisy Class will have Mrs Constable and Miss Carter as their teachers.

The planning and teaching for these two groups will be led by Miss Sainsbury (who is a qualified teacher) and delivered by the adults of each group. This is in line with Government and local authority advice. I have directed all staff to focus on the children's well-being and mental health and to plan activities to support these. There will also be a daily phonics session, reading/language development session and a maths session as well as other activities.

We appreciate that the children have had very different experiences during the school closure and will have a range of emotions about returning to school. Therefore, **for the first morning, children will be asked to attend for just one hour**, so they can meet their group's staff and see their learning area.

One of the biggest challenges for us is the safe entry and exit of the Reception children from their classrooms to the front of the site. We will be asking parents to use the 'IN' car park gate to enter the site. There will be socially distancing markers along the path that we would ask parents to wait at. A member of staff will then be able to take two or three children at a time to the classroom and return for the rest. We would ask parents to leave the site through the middle 'OUT' car park gates.

Parents will be asked to follow the same procedure when collecting their children, waiting at the markers until their child is brought out to them, and then leaving by the 'OUT' gate.

So that parent groups can socially distance, as well as the staff and children, each group will have a drop off and pick up time. I would ask that you are punctual please so that everyone can remain safe.

Although the school office is open for business, it is not open to visitors. If you need to speak to a member of the office staff, or give information to the teaching staff please use the office email address: [admin@ryde.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@ryde.herts.sch.uk) or by telephone: 01707 267333. We will respond to you as soon as is possible.



I will write to you tomorrow to inform you of your child's group, their drop off and pick up times and other details of their return.

I would like to thank you in advance for your patience and understanding. The return to school is important for your child, but it has to be managed safely and in a way that supports all children's needs, and has the confidence of the parents and carers.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sue Thompson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'S'.

Mrs Sue Thompson  
Headteacher