



# 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

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> August 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you have had an enjoyable summer break and your children are looking forward to returning to school.

The staff have been working very hard to ensure classrooms are ready and an exciting and challenging curriculum has been planned.

We have been reviewing our COVID-19 practices in readiness for the start of the new term. It was so helpful that the whole school community worked so well together to keep our school safe last academic year and I am hopeful that this will continue.

Following government advice, we are not proposing to have class bubbles any longer, unless an outbreak makes that necessary. The children will be seated in small groups in their classrooms. Assemblies will resume, but these will be reduced to no more than three classes at a time, until we are confident that whole school assemblies are safe to conduct indoors.

There will also be no class bubbles at playtimes, allowing the children to play freely in school grounds and allowing them to play with friends and siblings in other classes.

Children will be issued with their own named stationery set as previously (so no need to purchase any pens, pencils etc. for your child) and their own water bottle (which will be washed in the dishwasher daily).

Of course our handwashing and cleaning routines will be as rigorous as previously. A new risk assessment will be shared with you as soon as the staff have read and agreed it.

There have been some aspects of our practice during the COVID-19 pandemic that we have found has helped the school to run more smoothly and we will be keeping these. Our lunch time routines are now much smoother and will allow the children a longer time in the playground. From September no classes will have to eat lunch in their classrooms.

To help keep the staff safe and the school open and functioning normally, we will be asking all visitors to the building to continue to wear a face covering. Also if you are approaching staff at the beginning or end of the day, please wear a face covering and remember to keep socially distanced. Thank you.

In the mornings we are asking that children arrive at school between 8:35am and 8:50am. Ms Curtis and I will continue to meet and greet the children at the green gates. This will allow the children to drift in over a period of time.

At the end of the day all the children will leave through the green gates and meet parents and carers in the car park. This will make the pavements outside the school much safer.



Class teachers will also be available at the end of the day. Reception and Class 1 children will go home at 2:55pm and the rest of the classes will drift out over the following 10 minutes. Please remember that dogs are not to be brought onto the school car park.

Yours sincerely

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