



The Ryde School

Pleasant Rise, Hatfield, Herts, AL9 5DR

01707 267333 | www.ryde.herts.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs Sue Thompson

Wednesday 2nd September

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you are well and preparing for your children to return to school on Thursday 3rd September.

By now you should have received the links to a welcome back video from me and also a video showing the entrance your child should use when they come to school. I hope these will help the children prepare for Thursday.

Our approach to the children (and parents/carers) will be one of tolerance and kindness. Every child will have had a different experience of the lockdown. Every child will be made to feel welcome in school and, when necessary, be gently reminded of rules and procedures, while they settle back into school life.

Thursday morning and afternoon will be very busy at drop off and pick up and I would ask that you do not gather with other parents when dropping off or picking up your child/ren. Please remember to wear a face covering while on the school site or at the school gates.

There are a few things to inform/remind you of as the school reopens:

- If you have travelled from a country that requires you to self-isolate, please inform the school office. This absence will not count in the normal non-attendance data for your child.
- If you, your child, or anyone in your household have tested positive for COVID-19, or are showing symptoms of COVID-19, please do not send your child to school. Please let the school office know. This absence will not count in the normal non-attendance data for your child.
- Your child will not need to bring anything to school for the first few days except a coat and a lunch box, if they are having packed lunches.
- I would ask that Year 6 children do not bring mobile phones to school, as we will no longer be able to keep these safely in the office. If it is essential for them to be brought to school, please ensure they are in a named bag and they will be stored in the main hall. Please be aware that we cannot guarantee the safety of mobile phones when they are stored in the hall.
- After surveying parents, we are hoping to be able to start up our breakfast and after school clubs by the end of the first full week. I will contact you with more information by Monday 7th September.



- After school sports clubs will not be organised initially, but we are working on ways we can do this safely. I will write with more information in a few weeks time.
- We are looking forward to all children returning to school, and we are aiming for full attendance. We will work with families who have particular concerns, to allay concerns and worries to ensure that all children are able to return to school. We will aim for the best outcome for children and their families. In our planning for a return to full opening, we do not see how imposing sanctions or fines will be of any benefit to anyone.

We have read the government's latest update: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak/guidance-for-full-opening-schools>. Fortunately, we do not need to alter our risk assessment or policy at the present time. We will need to update both in regards to remote learning and how we would respond to a local lockdown – and we are working on these at the moment. I will consult with you before any changes are made.

All the staff and I are looking forward to seeing all our families again on Thursday.

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