

# Opening the school for all pupils

## FACTSHEET

### *Dear Pupils, Parents/Carers and Families,*

*We know that our children and families will have lots of questions about how school might be different when we reopen to all of our pupils. We hope that the following will answer many of those questions. Please be aware that some of these new ways of doing things will not be easy, and may sometimes be seen as very inconvenient. Please remember that if a member of staff asks you to stick to the procedures that we have put in place, be aware that we need to adhere to our risk assessment to mitigate the spread of COVID-19.*

***It is the expectation that all pupils will attend school from the start of the new school year, which is Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2020 for pupils in Years 1 to 6 (pupils in Nursery and Reception may have different start dates which have been communicated to parents by letter already). It might seem scary if your children have not been in school since March, but remember, lots of children came to school during the lockdown period, especially from June when school was open to Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6. Of course, almost all of our staff have been at school the whole time, and are experienced with our new way of working.***



### *Bubbles*

Pupils will be kept either in class or year group *bubbles*. This means that they will not come into contact with children from other classes indoors, or other year groups outdoors.

For now, things like assemblies and other gatherings will no longer take place in the school halls.

These *bubbles* also mean that families of pupils in different year groups shouldn't gather together on or outside the school premises...

### *Staggered timings*

Each year group has a different time to drop off their child/ren, and pick them up again – also to ensure minimum mixing. To support this, parents must arrive at school as close to their drop-off time as possible and line up socially distanced at the main gate before coming into school – more details about this will be online later this week...

Pupils in different year groups will have different break and lunchtimes and won't be in the playground at the same time.





## Hygiene and cleaning

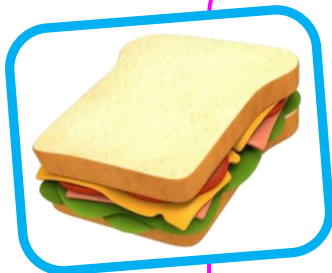
There will be lots of opportunities for pupils to wash and sanitise their hands throughout the school day – and teachers will be making sure that this happens. Classrooms and other areas have supplies of hand sanitiser. Classrooms also have plenty of tissues for coughs and sneezes to make sure that we “Catch it, bin it, kill it!”

We have a cleaner onsite throughout the day undertaking extra cleaning – especially of high traffic areas like door handles!

## Classroom organisation and curriculum

We know that pupils have missed quite a lot of time in school – we will be assessing individual needs to ensure that we get all our children back where they need to be. We’ll still be maintaining a broad curriculum though to ensure that we don’t miss out any subjects!

Classrooms will be reorganised to minimise the need for pupils to sit opposite each other – further mitigating any risks...



## Lunchtimes

Lunchtimes would usually involve pupils gathering closely together in the school halls to eat and socialise – now though, we have to minimise the risks. For the time being, pupils will be eating a cold sandwich lunch in their classrooms – keeping to their *bubble*. The school will be providing all pupils with lunches and we’ll be doing our best to give pupils filling choices!

Same as at break time, play outside will be within their year group *bubble*...

## Communication with the school

Our school now needs to operate differently. Parents can no longer pop into the school office for a chat with Mrs Tarrant, or talk to the class teacher at the start or end of the school day. Meetings with teachers may need to be arranged and approved by the Head Teacher, or more likely, conducted by phone.

Class teachers will be able to return phone calls to parents, if required – but please remember this will be outside of teaching hours.





## *Educational Visits & before and after school provision*

Where *Educational Visits* are planned, they will be risk assessed with respect given to COVID-19 risk mitigation.

We are planning to begin a before school club at some point soon – but it will be different to our old *Breakfast Club*. It is likely that the provision will only be for working parents who have no alternative childcare available – further details will come out soon.

Unfortunately, at the moment we will not be running after school clubs.

## *Your support and patience*

We would really appreciate the support and patience of pupils, parents and families as we put in place our procedures to run the school in the new normal. We opened successfully for groups of Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 pupils in the summer, but we know that the task ahead is more complex than that. It is likely that our new procedures will evolve and improve as time goes by, and as we face new challenges.

As the reality of working with all pupils in school unfolds we look forward to working in partnership with pupils, parents and families to solve any problems and make school work as well as we possibly can.



Further, more specific information about arrangements for arriving at school in the morning, and leaving at the end of the day will be available soon.

**We look forward to seeing you on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2020!**



**"We can't wait to have you back at school."**

– Andrea, Headteacher



Find out more about returning to school safely at [gov.uk/backtoschool](https://gov.uk/backtoschool)

**STAY ALERT**

**CONTROL THE VIRUS**

**SAVE LIVES**



**Ravenscroft  
Primary School**

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