



Ravenshall

all different | all equal | all important

10 July 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

As we move towards the summer break, we would like to update you with the plans that have been put in place for a safe return to school in September.

We are living in very challenging times and the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic still poses a significant threat in all our lives. However, the Government have said that schools will re-open for all pupils and we want you to be confident that when your child attends, our school will be as safe as can be. I am sure you will agree that the greatest priority is to make sure that all our pupils and staff are safe.

We understand too, that both you and your child may have some anxiety about returning to school. This is completely understandable, and this is why we are sharing our plans in the hope that you are re-assured that we continue to keep the whole of our school community as safe as possible.

Please take the time to read and digest the information below. This condensed overview should clarify our plans for the start of Autumn Term and cover the key points, actions and interventions which are contained in the school's 'Recovery Action Plan' which was shared with the Governing body this week.

- The school re-opens for pupils on **Tuesday 8th September**
- **PFA re-opens for pupils on Wednesday 9th September**
- All our students will be in their own class 'Bubbles' and will be taught predominantly by the same staff and stay together
- The classes will be split into **Group A** and **Group B**. To aid a smooth transition for both old and new pupils, initially we will work on a **2 week rota**. This will be reviewed regularly.
- **Week 1 – Group A – Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday. Week 1 - Group B – Thursday, Friday**
- **Week 2 – Group A – Monday, Tuesday. Week 2 – Group B – Wednesday, Thursday, Friday**
- **You will receive a detailed outline of your child's days in school very shortly**
- Classrooms have been re-designed and social distancing promoted. Breaks, lunchtimes and the use of resources have been carefully planned to avoid mixing with an unnecessary number of people. Additional cleaning, sanitising and hand washing has been planned and Ozonated water (a safe disinfectant) and antibacterial wipes are available. Additional signage is being prepared to reinforce new routes around school and give reminders to everyone about social distancing
- We will continue to minimise contact between individuals and reduce contact wherever possible
- If your child uses school transport, you will be informed in the next few weeks about timings and pick up/drop off arrangements which have been arranged for your child

In addition to this, we need to be clear of our expectations of parents and carers in ensuring that the school remains safe and secure for everyone. We ask therefore, that you understand and follow the next key pieces of information and support the staff to ensure they are fully adhered to:

- If you are dropping off your child in the morning, please **DO NOT** come into the school car park or drive up to the school gates. Please **park** on Ravensthorpe Road, **walk up** to the school's main gates where you will be told which entrance your child will be using
- If your child is eligible for a disability parking permit and you are choosing to transport your child to school, then please arrive at 9.15 and follow staff instructions to enter the school
- Breakfast club will continue to be provided in classrooms for a small contribution
- Student lockers will not currently be available and we ask that pupils **do not** bring into school any **personal possessions**
- **Medicines, medical equipment and packed lunch boxes** are the only things which students are allowed to bring in school
- **Mobile phones** may be brought into school by **INDEPENDENT TRAVELLERS** only, for their personal safety
- We have a duty of care to protect all staff and pupils in school. Therefore we have to strictly limit physical interventions of any kind. **If a pupil's behaviour or dysregulation becomes unsafe we have to insist that you collect your child from school immediately**
- It is **essential** that the school is able to **contact you** immediately if the above happens or your child becomes unwell/ill in school. **Parents need to be contactable at all times.** We will insist that full contact details are provided at the start of the term and that they are up to date
- Staff will be available on **Monday 7th September** to discuss transition planning and ask you to share any information with them which may be relevant in supporting your child back into school
- The actions and interventions we have outlined above are based on guidance from **central government** and as such you may find it useful to follow the link below:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-for-full-opening-special-schools-and-other-specialist-settings/guidance-for-full-opening-special-schools-and-other-specialist-settings>.
- **If you require language/ additional support to read this letter, please contact school and some-one will interpret and/or clarify details for you**

Finally, we should all be aware that unforeseen circumstances during these difficult and challenging times can have an influence on planning. It may well be that some of our plans will change over the summer break and it will be prudent for everyone to keep this in mind.

Thank you to everyone for your continued support and understanding.

We wish you all a safe Summer break and look forward to seeing you again in September.

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Headteacher

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Deputy Headteacher

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