



Rathfern Primary School  
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Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

As you are aware, the government has announced that schools will reopen to all pupils on the 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021. We are very much looking forward to welcoming back more of our pupils for face-to-face education.

### **Attendance**

From 8th March, school attendance will be **mandatory** and our usual rules on attendance will apply. As a reminder, your child should self-isolate and not come to school if they:

- Have coronavirus symptoms or have tested positive
- Live with someone who has symptoms or has tested positive
- Are a close contact of someone who has tested positive

It is extremely important that the points above are followed as we need to ensure that we are maintaining a safe environment for all of the pupils and members of the school community.

In line with the latest government guidance, pupils who are clinically extremely vulnerable should not attend school. If your child falls into this category, they will have been provided with a letter from their medical team and evidence of this letter will need to be provided to school. They should continue to learn from home until further notice.

If your child has recently fallen into this category, please contact Lisa Baldwinson our Attendance Officer. Additional attendance information will be sent to parents but if you have any concerns regarding attendance or your child returning to school, please email [attendance@rathfern.lewisham.sch.uk](mailto:attendance@rathfern.lewisham.sch.uk)

For pupils who are self-isolating or shielding, we will upload lessons onto Google Classroom in line with our Remote Learning Policy.

**Live lessons will not take place unless a bubble is closed.**

### **Our safety measures:**

Please be assured that we're doing everything we can to make sure our pupils can return to school safely. We will be taking the following protective measures to keep everyone safe: Staggered drop off and pick up times to keep groups apart as they arrive and leave. More details about this can be found further on in this letter.

- Gathering of parents at the school gate and otherwise coming onto the site without an appointment is not allowed.
- Children grouped into bubbles. These groups will be kept separate at playtime and lunchtime.
- There will be a limit to the amount of equipment children bring to school. Permitted items are lunchboxes and water bottles only. Children should not bring in any stationery equipment from home.
- Avoiding unnecessary sharing of items.
- One-way systems in corridors.



**Positive Case:**

Any child or member of staff who has been in close contact with someone who has tested positive will be sent home. They will need to self-isolate for 10 full days counting from the day after contact with the individual who tested positive.

**Masks**

Only parents are requested to wear masks outside the gates when dropping off and collecting their children. Children are not required to do so unless they chose to do so and will need a zip-lock bag to store their mask when not in use.

**Testing:**

Please see the handbook

**Enrichment Club:**

We are working on bringing back enrichment clubs as soon as it is safe to do so. We will be reviewing this decision before Easter and will inform you as soon as we know more.

**PE Days:**

Children will still have to come in wearing their PE kits and parents will be informed of PE days by the class teacher later this week.

**Breakfast club & Wraparound:**

Wraparound care will continue as before the lockdown, 7.45am Breakfast club and 3.00-6.00pm for Afterschool club.

**Year 5:**

Year 5 are encouraged to go home by themselves in the summer term, but should you wish for your child to travel home by themselves in the Spring term we will need written permission.

**Road Restrictions/ Access:**

Lewisham council have advised us that the road closures have been delayed due to the lockdown but will be continuing as normal

**Risk Assessments:**

Our updated risk assessment can be found on the school website

**Timings: - more details in the Handbook**

CLASS	GATE	TIMES
Nursery	Nursery Gate	8.50-3.50
Ocean		8.30-3.00
Waterfall		8.40-3.10
Stream & Mangrove	Gate A	8.30-3.00
Storm & Cloud Class		8.40-3.10
Avalanche & Everest		8.50-3.20
Year 3	Gate B	8.30-3.00
Year 4		8.40-3.10
Year 5		8.50-3.20
Year 6		9.00-3.30



Please note that parents will not be allowed onto the school site in the morning and children must be collected promptly at their allocated times. We are continuing to ask that all adults who come onto the school site to collect their children are wearing a face covering unless they are exempt from doing so.

Lockdown has been a challenging period for all of us, and we'd like to thank you for your continuing support during this difficult and uncertain time. If you or your child have any concerns about returning to school, or if you think your child might need extra support when they return, please contact your child's class teacher, Ms Lisa or email us at [covid@rathfern.lewisham.sch.uk](mailto:covid@rathfern.lewisham.sch.uk)

We'd also like to thank you for all your support in helping your child learn from home. We will continue to keep in touch so please ensure you check your emails on a regular basis, in case we update our plans or if we need to make changes due to new government guidance.

Best Wishes

Mrs N Maharasingam  
Head Teacher

