

Ridgeway Newsletter – July 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

A reminder that school will close on **THURSDAY 16th JULY 2020** for the summer.

What's Covered:

- School Closure
- September 2020
- Transition
- Arrangements for Week 1, 2 & 3
- School Organisation
- School Uniform & PE
- School Equipment incl. Home Readers
- Before & After School Provision
- Communication
- COVID Outbreak
- Recovery Curriculum
- Free School Meals
- Attendance
- Start and Finish times

Arrangements for September 2020.

Following the announcement we will welcome back all pupils in September, we hope this newsletter will provide some clarity regarding September and arrangements we are putting in place for our children.

Tuesday 1st September 2020

School will be closed to pupils for staff training.

Wednesday 2nd September 2020

School will be closed to pupils to enable teachers to hold individual meetings with pupils and their parents. This will be an opportunity for pupils to meet their new class teachers, and for class teachers to catch up on what has happened while they have been at home. Discussions around what home learning has taken place, and what concerns or worries parents or children may have on returning to school will enable teachers to plan a smooth transition back into school.

Transition for Pupils moving into Y1 – Y6

Our usual transition arrangements to prepare pupils for moving into their next class have not been able to take place during the summer term. Equally more than half of our school population will not have been in school for almost 6 months when we reopen in September. Therefore it is our intention for our transition for these year groups to take place during the first 2 weeks of the autumn term, so to allow this to happen we will have a staggered start to the autumn term with some part time provision. This will enable children to be able to get to know their new teacher and ease them back into school life where any issues or worries the children may have coming back to school will be able to be addressed.

Thursday 3rd & Friday 4th September

We will welcome all children back to spend time in school with their new teacher. All children will be expected to attend school for the morning session and will go home at lunchtime. Staggered start and finish times will be in place.

Monday 7th – Friday 11th September

All children can attend school full time. Any child who would benefit from continuing to attend part time (particularly those children who have remained at home during the pandemic) are able to do so. Parents who wish to collect their child at 1.30pm, will need to complete a Parent Mail form informing us of this.

Week Beginning 14th September 2020

All children will be expected to attend school full time. Individual arrangements will be made with parents, where mental health issues may mean this is not appropriate. We are awaiting further guidance with regards to those who are shielding.

School Organisation from September

We will be following government guidance in order to ensure safety and would like to reassure you that safety is always our highest priority.

From the autumn term, children will remain in 'bubbles', however these will increase in size to class bubbles of 30 children and in some instances year group bubbles. We will continue to minimise the crossing of bubbles and where children from different classes need to come together to allow specialist teaching take place, such as RML phonics, steps will be taken to ensure social distancing is in place between these children.

Bubbles will continue to remain in one space in school for the majority of their day, which may mean that some children will eat lunch in their classrooms. Where children eat in the hall, each bubble will be allocated their own 'table' and tables will be cleaned between bubbles.

Staggered playtimes and lunchtimes will continue to minimise contact between bubbles and reduce the number of children on the playground at any one time.

Where staff need to cross bubbles to allow for specialist teaching to take place, such as PE, the teachers will ensure that they remain at least one metre away from the children at the front of the teaching space.

Additional cleaning of shared spaces and toilets will take place at lunchtime.

Handwashing and hand sanitising will be a regular feature through the school day.

School Uniform

From the autumn term, children will be expected to wear the full school uniform.

P.E.

During autumn term, PE will take place outdoors. Children will therefore need plain blue/ black joggers, a white T shirt and plain blue/black hoody (no logo). On PE days (information to follow) children will come to school wearing their PE clothes, to avoid PE kits being left at school and ensure they are washed regularly.

School Equipment

Children will be provided with an individual wallet of equipment which will not be shared. Personal pencil cases will not be allowed in school.

Home Reading

Children will continue to bring home a school reading book. When these are returned to school, they will be quarantined for at least 48 hours before being redistributed.

Before & After School Provision

Before & After School Provision will be available from 7th September. Booking forms will be available before the end of term and places will need to be booked using Parent Mail.

Communication with school

In order to keep our children and staff safe we are making some changes to our routines and procedures, so we are thanking you in advance for your patience and co-operation. Our ethos of an 'open door policy' very much remains, however daily face to face contact with school staff will be limited in the autumn term.

To minimise the number of unessential visitors into school, parents will not be allowed in the school building, including the school office. We will continue to keep you informed via regular letters on parent mail. Please make sure you have downloaded the app, this will ensure that you don't miss any essential messages throughout the summer holidays regarding school.

Information will also be available on the school website. In these uncertain times it is more important than ever that we are able to reach you this way so please do regularly check for updates.

Please always check what information is already available to you before calling the school office or contacting the class teacher. Class teachers will still be available on class dojo during school hours to respond to urgent messages, please be patient when waiting for a response. Please only use this forum for important queries that relate directly to the class, or where the information cannot be found anywhere else.

Parents on Site

Parent will continue to use the one way system around site and only ONE ADULT to drop off and collect.

What happens in the event of a case of COVID-19

Children or adults displaying Covid symptoms or are unwell should not enter the school site. Children who say they feel unwell will have their temperature taken and be taken to our meeting room away from the other children where they will wait to be collected. We will send unwell children home immediately.

Children who are sent home due to having COVID symptoms must be tested and school must be informed of the outcome of the test as soon as is possible.

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-and-tracing/get-an-antigen-test-to-check-if-you-have-coronavirus/>

If a family member tests positive, children must stay at home and isolate for 14 days. In the event of a confirmed case of a pupil or staff member, the other children in that bubble/class will be asked to isolate for 14 days. Please be reassured that we are guided by Public Health Staffordshire in relation to confirmed cases.

Recovery Curriculum

During the Autumn Term, we will dedicate our time to our 'Recovery Curriculum' which places a great emphasis on catching up on key skills and personal, social and health education (PSHE). Further information will follow in September regarding this.

Infant School Lunches

Children in Reception, Y1 & Y2 will be provided with a school meal each day in line with the universal offer for free school meals for infant aged children and so will not require a packed lunch from home.

Attendance

School attendance will be **mandatory** from the beginning of the autumn term. This means from that point, the usual rules on school attendance will apply, including:

- parents' duty to ensure that their child attends regularly at the school where the child is a registered pupil and they are of compulsory school age;
- schools' responsibilities to record attendance and follow up absence
- the availability to issue sanctions, including fixed penalty notices in line with local authorities' codes of conduct

If your child is ill or unable to attend school for any reason you must let us know by telephone on the first morning of absence. Our office staff will telephone you if no message is received. Any child not attending school without an appropriate reason, the absence will be recorded as unauthorised and may result in a penalty notice being issued by the local authority.

Staggered Start & Finish times for September 2020

Please find below the start and finish times and the entrance and exit points for each class.

The finish times in RED refer only to Thursday 3rd & Friday 4th September 2020

In order to minimise the number of adults on site, assist with social distancing and limit contact between different bubbles, it is important that parents stick to these times.

Please do not arrive before your start time and ensure that you are not late dropping off or collecting your child– as other years may be using the same entrance door.

There will be no late entry into school if you miss your door.

Class Group	Start Time	End Time	End Time	Entrance Point/ Dismissal Point
Year 1 – Rose	8.30am	11.45am	3pm	Hall door next to KS1 Playground
Year 1 – Clover	8.30am	11.45am	3pm	Classroom door on KS1 Playground
Year 2 – Daffodil	8.30am	11.45am	3pm	Blue Bridge door on KS1 Playground
Year 2 – Thistle	8.30am	11.45am	3pm	Blue door under the bridge
Year 3 – Holly	8.40am	12.00pm	3.10pm	Blue door on KS1 Playground
Year 3 – Ivy	8.40am	12.00pm	3.10pm	Blue door under the bridge
Year 4 – Hawthorn	8.40am	12.00pm	3.10pm	Blue door by the studio
Year 4 – Laurel	8.40am	12.00pm	3.10pm	Blue door by staffroom
Year 5 – Sycamore	8.50am	12.10pm	3.20pm	Blue door under the bridge
Year 5 – Birch	8.50am	12.10pm	3.20pm	Blue door by the staffroom
Year 6 – Oak	9am	12.20pm	3.30pm	Blue door by the studio
Year 6 – Horse Chestnut	9am	12.20pm	3.30pm	Blue door under the bridge