

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you are all well and looking forward to starting the new term as much we are. The staff at Rhodes cannot wait to see you all again and to have our wonderful school building filled with children once more. Although we recognise the Autumn Term will feel very different to the usual start of term, the Rhodes Avenue team are determined to make this the very best start to a school year.

The staff will be in school on the 1st and 2nd September to ensure everything thing is in place for the children's return on **Thursday 3rd September**. We have two packed days of professional development looking at supporting pupil wellbeing and the challenges that may have been faced during lockdown, thorough and detailed transition meetings will take place, training on developing pupil literacy; looking at the school priorities for the year ahead as well as Health and Safety and Child Protection training.

The Autumn Term will start on **Thursday 3rd September** for Years 1 to 6 (Nursery and Reception children will be staggered throughout the first two weeks of term). Can I politely remind parents that we have had to stagger the start and end of the school day to minimise interaction and congestion. Social distancing will remain in place for all adults entering the school grounds. Each year group hub will have a designated route into and out of the school and gates will remain open for 10 minutes after each allocated time (see Appendix A). Parents will not be permitted to enter the school building and will be asked to leave their child at the designated area with a member of school staff. Videos for each year group entrance will be uploaded to the school website – these can be viewed on our Twitter feed also.

To minimise the movement of staff, year groups will be organised into hubs and class pods. Staff will support pupils within a hub and large gatherings, such as assemblies, will take place digitally. I would like to remind parents that initially we will be operating a half day on Friday's, for most pupils, for the first half term. This is to limit the number of pupils and staff in contact with each other by stopping cross year group teaching therefore minimising the number of pupils and staff needing to self-isolate in the event of a positive COVID 19 case. The school will continue to run the After School Club, on a Friday, and Friday extra-curricular providers have agreed to bring forward their club start times; these will be shared with you next week.

Although the school may feel very different I would like to reassure parents that we remain here to offer our support. Appointments to meet staff can be arranged via the school office or we are always happy to pick up the phone. This is a new world of educating and I would like to ensure we are able to continue to build strong parental relationships and you are all able to make a connection with your child's new class teacher.

I would like to thank you for your continued support and I look forward to seeing all year group's return to school next week.

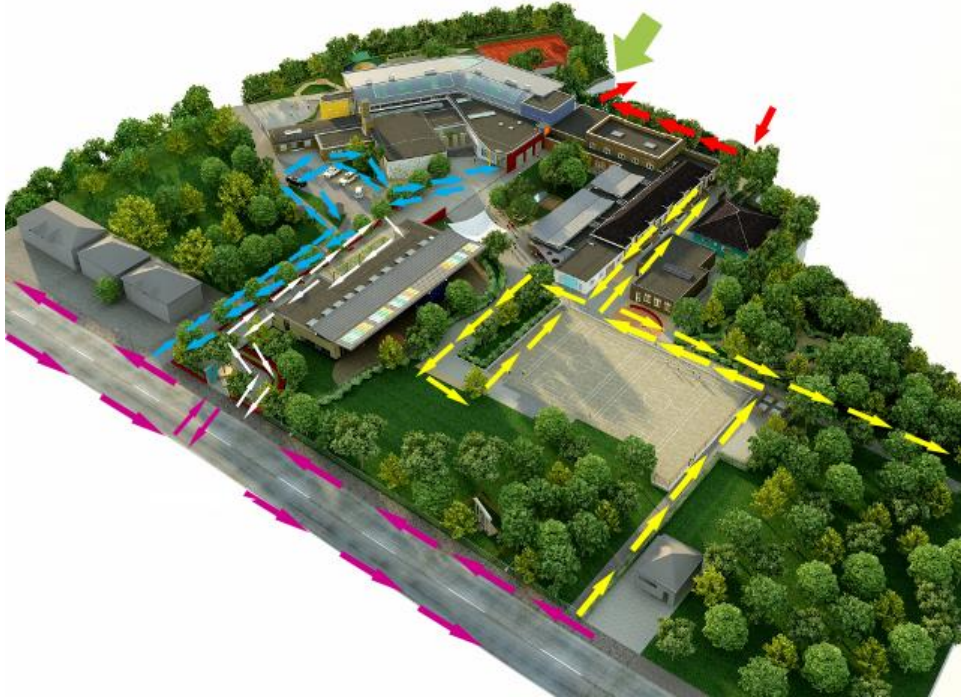
Best wishes,

Adrian

Appendix A

Autumn Term 1
Start and end Times

Year Group	Route Colour	Start Time	End Time	Friday End Time
Year 6	Green	8.40am	3.10pm	12.45
Year 5	Green	8.55am	3.25pm	12.30
Year 4	Yellow	8.45am	3.15pm	12.15
Year 3	Blue	9.00am	3.30pm	12.45
Year 2	Red	9.00am	3.30pm	12.30
Year 1	Red	8.45am	3.15pm	12.15
Reception	White	Kingfisher 8.45am Owl 8.55am Robin 9.05am	3.00pm 3.10pm 3.20pm	12.15 12.25 12.35
Nursery	Yellow	9.00am	3.00pm	3.00pm
Breakfast Club	Blue Route	From 7.30am	Until 8.30am	
ASC – KS1 – KS2	Blue route	End of day	Until 6.00pm	
EY ASC	White Route	End of Day	Until 6pm	
School visitors	Blue Route			



Blue Route

Year 3 and school visitors

White Route

Reception

Yellow Route

Year 4 and Nursery

Red Route

Year 1 and 2

Green Route

Year 6 and 5