



22/05/2020

Re-opening Update.

Dear Parent(s),

RE: PHASED REOPENING OF SCHOOL FROM 8 JUNE

We would like to explain the provisional plans we have begun making in response to the government's announcement regarding schools potentially reopening in June. We are grateful for your patience whilst we incorporate the ever-changing guidance from the government and local authority.

We need to make you aware from the outset that we believe it will be very difficult to socially distance young children in a primary setting; however we are confident that the measures we will put in place will minimise the risk of transmission. The difficulty of social distancing in primary schools is also recognised in the government's guidance. It is, therefore, essential that we all follow the health and safety guidelines regarding being alert to any signs or symptoms presented by any member of our school community. Consequently control measures are in place across the school and these include the use of anti-viral cleaning materials, the strategic placement of hand sanitiser pumps, and a detailed risk assessment.

Outlined below are the provisional plans we will put in place if the government insists schools partially open in June. However, it is not guaranteed that this will occur. As you are aware, the situation is constantly changing, and we may have to respond by revising our plans as appropriate.

School Opening Hours

- Provision for vulnerable and critical key workers' children will continue as present: five days a week.
- Dependent on pupil numbers, provision may be offered to Nursery, Reception, Year One, and Year Six pupils. The school will continue with its key worker provision.
- Year Two, Year Three, Year Four and Year Five pupils will continue to work online and from home. The school will revise its current model of distance learning to provide more content and more teacher directed learning.

Teaching Groups

- Each class to be split into 2 sub-classes with a maximum of 15 children, should a sub-class exceed this number then pupils will attend school on a rotational basis. Currently, this arrangement only applies to Year 6.
- Each sub-class will have their own teacher. It may not be their current class teacher and could be a Teaching Assistant.
- Year groups will not mix with other year groups.
- The children of critical key workers will continue to be taught in a separate group unless their year group is in school.
- No equipment will be shared in the classrooms. Children must only bring a pencil case with basic tools (which will be left in school), a coat (if required), a named water bottle; a packed lunch box (if you have chosen to not order via the school kitchen).

- **NO** book bags or rucksacks should be brought in.
- We will not be teaching the advertised curriculum. A recovery curriculum needs to be established. Ryefield needs to respond to what the pupils have retained and learned, not what they have been given to learn. Learning at home is very different from learning at school and teaching staff will have to realign pupil expectations for learning, as well as adjust the provision for families whose pupils remain at home. This will involve the use of Google Classroom.
- Teachers will give personalised verbal feedback at the point of learning, rather than individual marking.

Teaching Spaces

- Site team to stack unused furniture and space necessary equipment. Soft toys and furnishings have been removed to minimise the risk of cross-contamination.
- Teaching space to be 2m from any student, children's seats, and desks will be spread out across the classroom. Pupils will remain at their desk and pupil movement will be limited.
- Remaining equipment to be cleaned regularly (following a schedule).
- Children bring their own resources to limit movement in class.

Movement Around School

- Start and finish times for each Key Stage will be staggered.
- Pupil groups will work in one room for the day.
- The use of the field will be timetabled and the playground zoned.
- Break and lunchtimes will be staggered.

- Packed lunches only and eaten at their desk/space or outside. For those who have ordered them, our catering team will provide packed lunches.

New Rules and Routines

- Increased cleaning of contact surfaces during and at the end of the school day.
- Regular hand washing throughout the school day e.g. on arrival, after toileting, after sneezing, before eating, and at the end of the day.
- Staggered start and end of each day at 10-minute intervals for Key Stages to reduce crowding.
- **Pupil mobile phones must not be brought to school**, as collecting them in, and storing them, presents a contamination risk. Any phones brought onto the site will be confiscated and quarantined for 72 hours.
- If any child or member of staff in a group tests positive for the virus, all children and staff working in that group must self-isolate at home for 14 days, in line with government guidance.

Our focus in school will be to re-establish pupil wellbeing, safeguarding, routines, expectations, reducing anxiety, prepare for the transition, and begin to identify learning gaps.

You may well be asking yourself, 'Why is the school waiting until the 8th of June?'. An additional week will give the school, Governing Body and Trustees the confidence that reopening the school is not only the right thing to do but also the safe thing to do. Furthermore, the school hopes that 'track and trace' will be in place as this is a vital mechanism in minimising the spread of coronavirus.

I am sure that you still have many questions that remain unanswered. The school has prepared a comprehensive strategy for reopening, the documents go into great detail around Ryefield's operational and strategic actions. These will be released towards the end of next week. Following

their release, and allowing you time to digest its content, I will be holding Zoom webinars explaining the documents and responding to the questions submitted in advance of the presentation.

None of these decisions have been rushed and I do realise that these are frustrating times but I hope you all understand that our reopening plan meets the school's core role of ensuring the safety of staff and pupils, as well as serving the needs of the wider community. On a personal note I would like to thank you for the overwhelmingly positive feedback and support we have received over the past two months during this unprecedented situation. We must continue to work together to accelerate progress, reduce the gaps, and develop resilient pupils, but most of all we need to ensure that all in our community remain as safe as possible.

Kind Regards

Colin Tucker

[BBC Bitesize](#)

The image shows a screenshot of the BBC Bitesize website. At the top, the 'Bitesize' logo is on the left, and a 'Change language' dropdown menu is on the right. Below the logo is a navigation bar with links for 'Home', 'Daily lessons' (highlighted with a 'NEW' tag), 'Learn', 'Support', 'Careers', 'My Bitesize', and 'All Bitesize'. The main content area features a large banner with the heading 'Daily lessons are here!' and the text 'School shut? We're bringing you three new lessons every weekday, with videos, activities and more.' Below this text is an orange button that says 'Start a lesson >'. The banner is decorated with colorful illustrations of houses, trees, and a sun. Below the banner is a section titled 'Learn & revise >' which contains three colored boxes: a red box for 'Primary' (Age 3 to 11) with a 'Go to Primary >' button, a purple box for 'Secondary' (Age 11 to 16) with a 'Go to Secondary >' button, and a blue box for 'Post-16' (Age 16+) with a 'Go to Post-16 >' button.

Bitesize Daily will run from the start of the Summer term on Monday 20 April 2020.

This extensive new offering will include:

[Oak National Academy](#)

The above link takes you to a national scheme to provide additional content for pupils. Daily lessons are a combination of video clips and individual tasks.

The screenshot shows the 'Online Classroom' interface. At the top, there is a green navigation bar with the Oak National Academy logo on the left, the text 'Online Classroom' in the center, and four buttons on the right: 'Specialist' (purple), 'Subjects' (green), 'Schedule' (yellow), and 'Exit' (dark purple). Below the navigation bar, the main content area has a large green 'Subjects' heading with a mouse cursor hovering over it. To the right of the heading is a link that says 'Switch to schedule view'. Below the heading, the text 'Please select a year group' is displayed. Underneath, there are three category labels: 'EYFS', 'Primary', and 'Secondary'. The 'EYFS' category has a purple button labeled 'Reception'. The 'Primary' category has two rows of buttons: the first row contains 'Year 1' (light blue), 'Year 2' (light blue), and 'Year 3' (pink); the second row contains 'Year 4' (pink), 'Year 5' (pink), and 'Year 6' (pink). The 'Secondary' category has two rows of buttons: the first row contains 'Year 7' (orange) and 'Year 8' (orange); the second row contains 'Year 9' (orange) and 'Year 10' (dark blue). At the bottom of the main content area, the text 'Or view our specialist curriculum' is followed by a purple button labeled 'Specialist'.





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