

Rokesly Infant and Nursery School

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At Rokesly...

Our community is warm and welcoming

Learning is fun and fascinating

We celebrate the things that make us special

We challenge ourselves to go further



♥ We are in this together – even when we are all apart ♥

Dear Parent / Carers

Wednesday 15th July 2020

I hope you and your families are all well and healthy.

It feels very strange that this is our final week in school before the Summer holiday. Even though the situation is unusual, we have been bowled over by the enthusiasm and excitement of our returning children. It is a testament to you as parents that despite everything, they are keen to come in to school, get on with their learning and feel confident and comfortable despite the changes.

This week, as well as continuing child care for our key worker children, we have been welcoming the Year 2 classes back for transition days. We felt it was really important to give them all a chance to catch up with friends, talk and air any worries and help prepare for their next stage of learning. We have not had the time we would have wished, but we are thrilled to be giving them a proper send off! Look out for our leavers videos on the Year 2 news gallery page. This week the children will meet their new Year 3 teachers and parents will get to see them in special zoom meetings.

This week we are also welcoming all our new Reception children and parents before they become part of the Rokesly family in September. It has been lovely to see so many of our nursery parents and we are looking forward to the new school year.

September 2020

Our plans for September are taking shape. Government guidance now allows us to have children in school in much bigger groups. We anticipate further updates to come from the government during the summer break. We are also aware that the situation is likely to change and any plans we put in place may need to change quickly.

To allow staff time to plan and adapt our measures in line with new guidance, and also to prepare classes and resources ready for the children, we have changed our start dates slightly for the new school year. Originally, staff planned to return a day earlier than the agreed Haringey dates for two days of staff training. We expect new guidance to be published for schools during the holiday. Like other schools, we know now that we will need more time for all our staff to train, plan and prepare for any changes, so have decided to take one additional TAD day at the start of term where we will most need it. That means the children will now return to school from **Monday 7th September 2020**. The rest of our term dates in the Infant and Junior schools remain unchanged.

From **Monday 7th September**, we expect all the children to return to school full time. Unlike some schools, we are very lucky that we do not need to partially close or have a half-day Friday for planning and preparation. We are confident that we have the staff and systems in place to get things back to normal as much as possible for you and your child.

There will still be some measures in place that will be different than usual:

- Year groups will be kept apart in their own Year group pods during the school day. They will have separate playgrounds for morning break and lunchtime.
- During the day, we will avoid classes mixing together for periods of time.
- Parents will still not be allowed on site unless it is an emergency. We are, however, welcoming our new Reception parents into the playground to help settle their children when they start.
- Children will arrive at school at staggered times to avoid congestion at the school gates. Staggered start and finish times will not reduce learning time for the children.
- Children will be met by staff, sanitise their hands and line up in the same way they did this term.
- Reception classes will arrive at school through the Year 1 (pencil) playground gate.

	Yellow	Gold	Silver
Start time	8.55	9.05	9.15
Entrance	Y1 gate	Y1 gate	Y1 gate
Lunch	11.45 -12.45		
End of day	3pm	3.10	3.20

- Year 1 children will arrive at school through the main school entrance gate.

	Orange	Rainbow	Green
Start time	8.55	9.05	9.15
Entrance	Main gate Y1 fire door	Main gate Y2 fire door	Main gate Y1 fire door
Lunch	12-1pm Lunch		
End of day	3pm	3.10	3.20

- Year 2 children will arrive at school through the Year 2 playground gate.

	Blue	Purple	Red
Start time	8.55	9.05	9.15
Entrance	Y2 gate	Y2 gate	Y2 gate
Lunch	12.30-1.30		
End of day	3pm	3.10	3.20

- PE will be outside only. Kai is really looking forward to coming back as our sports coach!
- Lunchtimes will be staggered, but children will still eat up in the hall with their classmates.
- Bookbags and home reading books will go home. Children will need PE kits too, but no other items from home will be allowed in class.
- We know that some will have had a very difficult time during lockdown. All children will have lost their routines and their sense of belonging and community. They will need careful nurture and reassurance. We will support them through this difficult transition so they are ready to be learners again.
- We will be offering as broad a curriculum as possible, with a focus on catching up on missed learning. We know that there will be gaps in learning for many children and it will be a key part of our Recovery Curriculum that children have the tools they need to access the next stage of their education.

Over the coming weeks, I will ensure that any changes or new information we receive in school is shared with you. We expect announcements to be made while school is closed, but I will continue to email you updates so you stay informed. You will be sent detailed information about the start of school in September by email during the school holiday.

Summer activities

We were really hoping to be able to work with the YMCA to offer holiday activities for your children this summer, but unfortunately YMCA staff are not yet available to run their holiday scheme. There are still plenty of events and activities for your child within the borough – many outside in our local parks.

You will have received my email of the **Haringey Summer Fun** booklet. In addition, there are more events and activities being added directly onto the What's On page: <https://www.haringey.gov.uk/whatson>

Riaan at Kickabout who helps run many of our after school sports clubs wants parents to know that there are sport activities available locally, too. Kickabout are running camps on two sites as usual this summer and they would love to see some Rokesly friends at either venue!

Multisport camp at Muswell Hill Primary School is great for children who aren't football obsessed but enjoy sports and games, they focus on lots of different skill and team activities to build on the social aspect of sport as well as developing that all important hand/eye coordination!

Football Camp at Albert Rec (next to Sunshine Garden Centre) has been running for almost 15yrs at this venue and they are delighted to be able to continue this summer albeit with some new guidelines implemented. Please book either camp from www.kickaboutfc.com and note your child's friends when booking - they are operating a 'bubble' system at both venues and will endeavour to keep children together with their friends.

Although there will be no additional home learning for infant children over the summer break, all our past learning resources, links and activities will remain on the website. We will also add some new links for you.

One important link you may want to look at over the summer is this short video about preparing your child for a return to school. In the video, Dr Jess Richardson, principal clinical psychologist (National & Specialist CAMHS and Maudsley), provides straightforward, important suggestions for parents and teachers to deal with any potential apprehension or anxiety children may experience on returning to school. You can find the video here: <https://nipinthebud.org/information-films/tips-for-returning-to-school/>

Covid Summer Food Fund

The Covid Summer Food Fund will enable children who are eligible for benefits-related free school meals (FSM) to be supported over the summer holiday period. All vouchers for the summer holidays have been ordered.

Throughout the holiday Rokesly staff are working together with Muswell foodbank to distribute some food to our families in both Infants and Juniors. Every Monday from Monday 20th July to Monday 24th August, Infant staff have volunteered to give out food packs. We are really happy to be able to support our local families. If you feel your family could benefit from this scheme, please contact Jill at school.

Rokesly leavers

This week as we say a fond farewell to our Year 2 children, we are also sad to be saying goodbye to two members of our staff team.



First we are saying farewell to Monique Lloyd, who many of you will know in her role as nursery nurse in Rokesly early years since 2016. We will all miss Monique's professionalism, care and infectious enthusiasm. We are also saying a sad farewell to Sarah Horsfall who has taught Purple class this year, covering Jamie's maternity leave. Sarah has been a valued colleague for many years as a regular supply teacher and we were very pleased to have her here as a full time member of the Rokesly team. Both Sarah and Monique will be greatly missed, and we wish them the very best of luck for the future.

During this unprecedented time of National crisis, your support has been amazing. We were really happy to have had most of our children back in school for some time before the end of term. Like you we would have liked to have had everyone back full time, but this was sadly not possible. We know this has been a difficult time for you as parents. We thank you for being so positive about what we have been able to achieve in this most difficult of times. It has made me feel really proud of our school community.

Thank you

Grant Bright
Head teacher