

3rd July 2020

Dear **NAME**

I am writing to you because you have confirmed that you would like your child to have two 'reconnect' sessions at The Rise in the last two weeks of term.

NAME's sessions are:

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This is now possible because the government has now reduced the social distancing restriction to 1m and we want to take this opportunity to invite more pupils back into school to refamiliarise themselves with the environment and reconnect with staff and peers.

I want to highlight some of the measures we have taken in order to reduce the risk of infection as far as possible – as you know, keeping the whole community safe is our highest priority.

I have provided a short explainer video here: <https://youtu.be/mwZuq1lsxYU> – please watch it with your child to prepare them for Monday. There is also a 1 page summary at the end of this letter.

Social Distancing & Hand Hygiene:

- Whilst it isn't possible to guarantee at all times, we will be supporting pupils to stay 1+ metres away from one another and staff.
- This means that we will invite your child into school, they should wait in the car until this happens.
- We will support pupils to wash their hands at regular intervals throughout the day.

Changes to the building:

- We have made physical changes to our school/college building to support social distancing. This includes removing any non-essential items, moving desks, physically marking up the floors, shared spaces and one-way staircases.
- We have additional cleaning on site throughout the day
- We changed all our cutlery, plates etc to disposable ones.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE):

- Face masks and gloves **may** be worn by staff and we will prepare children and young people for [seeing staff in PPE](#) including face masks

Equally, we need your support to keep everyone as safe as possible.

Clothing and items from home:

- Covid-19 can remain on fabrics until washed, and so we ask that your son/daughter wears a clean set of clothes every day.
- At this time, there is no expectation that pupils wear uniform, however, please ensure the clothing (and any logos or slogans) are appropriate for school.
- Please minimise any items that are brought from home to those that are essential.
- Staff will be doing the same.

Unwell:

The most important protective measure we can take is minimising contact with ill individuals. Therefore:

- If your child is unwell for **any** reason they must not be sent into school.
- If your child becomes at all unwell while they are at school, we will immediately send them home.
- If anyone in the household has symptoms of Covid-19 they need to self-isolate for 7 days and **all** other members of household, including children, need to self-isolate for 14 days as per Government guidance

Track and Trace:

You will have also heard about the Government's approach to Track and Trace, to reduce the risk of a second peak of infection.

- This means that anyone who has been in contact with someone (for a period of 15 minutes or more) who has tested positive will be asked to self-isolate for 14 days. This includes our pupils.
- If a pupil or staff member (from a 'bubble') has tested positive, everyone in that 'bubble' will need to self-isolate and we will be in touch to explain that your child cannot attend on-site for 14 days.
- If they are well enough to learn from home this will be provided, and we'll also inform the LA in case you need further support.
- Whilst I appreciate this may cause frustration, particularly if your child does not seem symptomatic, please do not ask us to make any exceptions. The guidance is very clear, asking a child or young person to stay at home in these circumstances is not an exclusion but a necessary measure to keep everyone safe.

Parental information:

Our website <http://www.theriseschool.com/> has useful COVID-19 information for parents, including our full risk assessment. You can also find further information and resources for parents and carers on the [Ambitious about Autism website](#).



September 2020

We would normally share the classes and timetable for next academic year at one of our summer events. As this is sadly not possible, we will be sharing it by letter/email by Friday 10th July.

We are looking forward to seeing your son/daughter and welcoming them back on site.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Helen Ralston". The signature is written in a cursive style and is set against a light blue, dotted background.

Helen Ralston

Head of The Rise School



Being Safe whilst Learning from School – Pupil Routine

Arrival – 10.30am or 1.30pm

1. Wait in the car/taxi until a member of staff invites you in – this will require some patience, thank you.
2. Drop phone off.
3. Wash hands.
4. Enter.

During the Session -

1. Continue to wash hands very regularly
2. Use the toilet you've been allocated
3. Keep your distance as much as possible
4. One way system & staircases (if needed)

Leaving – 12noon or 3pm

1. Wait in hall until a member of staff calls for you.
2. Wash hands.
3. Collect Phone.
4. Leave.

General

- ✓ You do not need to wear uniform at this time, changing your clothes daily helps with infection control. The clothing needs to be appropriate for school – think about logos/slogans.
- ✓ Some staff may choose to wear gloves and masks – you can also. However, there are rules about this being done safely. We'll explain those to anyone who chooses to do this.
- ✓ If you become unwell (not necessarily corona!) during the day, you'll wait in the 1-1 room by Susan and Vivak in order to be collected.