



The Rudheath
Senior Academy

The Rudheath Senior Academy
Middlewich Road, Rudheath, Northwich, Cheshire CW9 7DT

Tel: 01606 42515

E-Mail: admin@rudheathsenioracademy.org.uk

Website: www.rudheathsenioracademy.org.uk

25 August 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Re: Arrangements for September 2020

I hope you have had a safe and peaceful summer break. At Rudheath Senior Academy, we welcome the decision to reopen schools in September; the staff team are looking forward to welcome our students back to school. Although the school will largely be back to normal, there will be some changes which are outlined in this letter. We have tried to time this letter carefully; government guidance has been through several iterations throughout lockdown, so we wanted to ensure the plans we communicated at current, and not replaced by further guidance.

Student safety is our priority. Schools have been asked to group students in appropriate bubbles to limit the risk of contracting coronavirus or coming into contact with a symptomatic person. In order to ensure the school operates in a safe capacity, we have had to rethink and reorganise some of the school day. You can read the full government guidance on the reopening of schools here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirusoutbreak/guidance-for-full-opening-school>

The school will reopen to **Year 7 students on Thursday 3rd September**. All remaining students from **Year 8 to Year 11 will return on Friday 4th September**. Tuesday 1st and Wednesday 2nd September will be dedicated to staff training and final preparations for the reopening of the building. The school premises have been through extensive rebuild and renovation throughout the lockdown period; students can return to school in outstanding facilities and be educated in the environment they fully deserve.

Entrance & Exit Points

On arrival, students are asked to enter and exit the school premises via designated gates. This is to minimise the risk of students mixing between their respective bubbles. The entrance/exit points are:

Year 7	Entrance/exit on Middlewich Road, located closest to the dental surgery
Year 8	Entrance/exit on Middlewich Road, located closest to the Co-op supermarket
Year 9	Entrance/exit on Shipbrook Road (current main gate)
Year 10/11	Entrance/exit on Shipbrook Road, located near to the music and PE facilities





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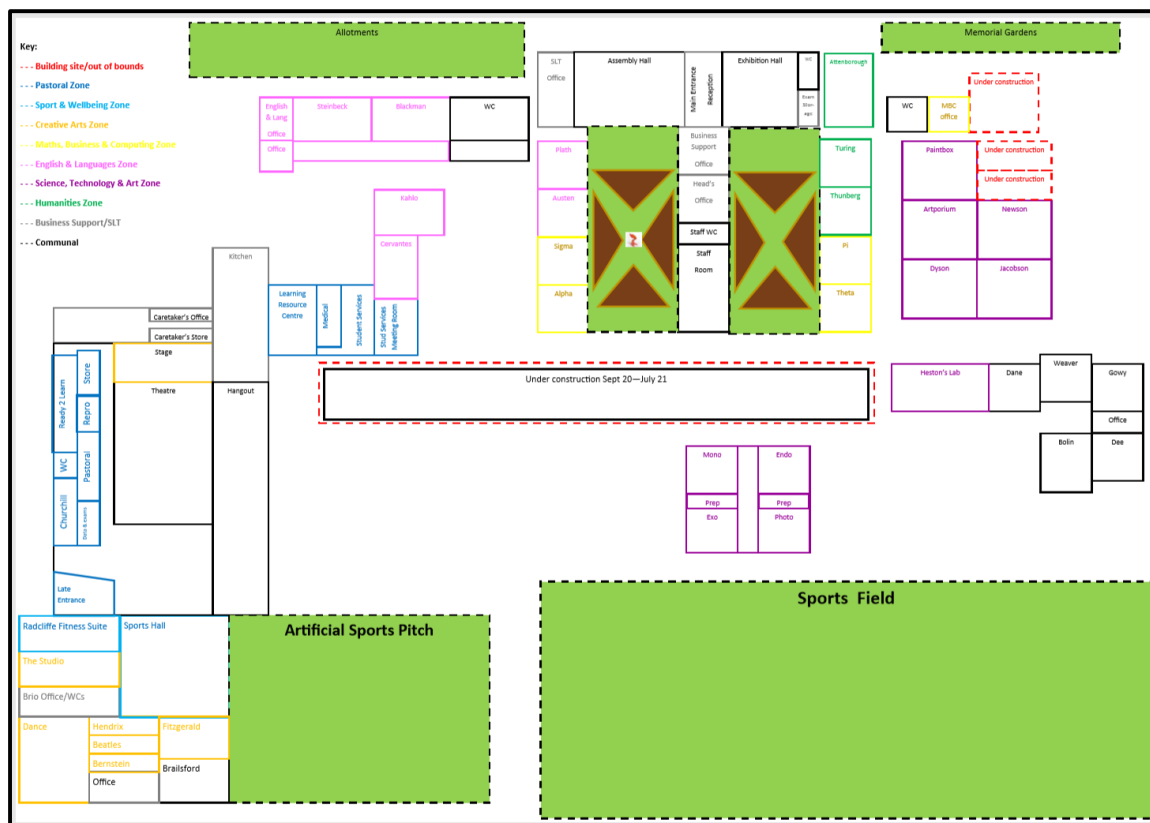
Students will be met by duty staff who will be located on all entrance/exit points. For students who have used a face covering on public transport, they will be asked to remove them upon arrival on the school premises. In line with national guidance, pupils will be instructed not to touch the front of their face covering during use or when removing them. They must sanitise their hands immediately on arrival (as is the case for all pupils), dispose of temporary face coverings in a covered bin or place reusable face coverings in a plastic bag they can take home with them, and then sanitise their hands again before heading to their classroom.

Curriculum Bubbles

Students will be based in their allocated year group bubble classrooms with teachers moving to teach them. Where possible, and particularly for Years 10 and 11, students will be taken to practical labs and classrooms to ensure we still deliver a broad and balanced curriculum, to fulfil their GCSE specification requirements. We will endeavour to deliver the entire curriculum, as per DfE guidance. This includes PE and other practical subjects.

Where practical activities take place, we will follow guidance and our risk assessment to ensure that equipment is thoroughly cleaned frequently between groups using them, or rotated so they can be unused and out of reach for 48 hours (72 hours for plastics) between use by different groups. The current plan is for year groups will be located in the following locations:

Year 7	Year 7 Hub
Year 8	New Humanities wing (outside the new Magnolia courtyard)
Year 9	English & Languages zone
Year 10	Maths, Business & Computing zone
Year 11	Science, Technology & Art zone





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The school has undergone an extensive rebuilding project, with some areas completed recently. The larger site has enabled us to place year groups into dedicated teaching zones around the building. In some areas, refurbishment projects are continuing during the next academic year, resulting in some classrooms being out of use. Students will still be taught in their usual classes, with teachers moving from room to room each period.

Catering Arrangements

All students will still be able to purchase food and drink items. In line with national guidance, the catering team will be offering a comprehensive 'grab and go' packed lunch, as well as a slightly smaller hot food selection. This is to limit the risk of cross contamination through the use of cutlery items. The school canteen remains in the same location but has been expanded to provide more seating space for 1 sitting. We have also rebranded it 'The Hangout'. New furniture has arrived and will be spaciouly designed to ensure students are safe during lunch. Additional zoned seating will be located in the theatre area.

School Day

As part of our risk assessment and review of operating the school in a safe manner, we have taken the decision to shorten the school day by 20 minutes. This is to condense break and lunchtimes, which will help minimise the risk of cross-contamination between bubbles during unstructured time.

The school day will follow as below:

Time	Duration	Lesson
8.45am	30 minutes	Registration
9.15am	1 hour	Lesson 1
10.15am	1 hour	Lesson 2
11.15am	15 minutes	Break
11.30am	1 hour	Lesson 3
12.30pm	1 hour	Lesson 4
13.30pm	30 minutes	Lunch
14.00pm	1 hour	Lesson 5
15.00pm	End of School Day	

All students must be in school by 8.45am. After this time, the gates will be locked. Students who arrive after 8.45am will need to report to the new Pastoral Reception (old school reception), located on Shipbrook Road. Here, students will be greeted by our Attendance Officer and a senior leader, who will record their late mark and signpost them to their form activity. **It is important students are punctual to school** now more than ever; we have a number of key activities planned in a new morning form routine, focused on personal development. Students need to be present to gain access to a wealth of important information and access a number of opportunities.

School Uniform

Students should wear their full school uniform. Current guidance indicates that uniform *do not need to be cleaned any more often than usual, nor do they need to be cleaned using methods which are different from normal*. The only amendments to the uniform policy is that all students must wear black shoes. For those parents who bought school trainers prior to lockdown and they feel are still clean and usable, we are happy to be flexible and incorporate a transition period up until Christmas. From January 2021, it will be strictly shoes only. Your support with this matter would be greatly appreciated; we are trying to improve the culture of the school and feel that a smart, formal school uniform will help us achieve our pursuit of excellence.



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Male Uniform	Male PE Kit		Female Uniform	Female PE Kit
RSA Black Blazer	RSA Polo		RSA Black Blazer	RSA Polo
Black Trousers	RSA Mid Layer		RSA Pleated Skirt	RSA Mid Layer
White Shirt	RSA Shorts		White Shirt	RSA Shorts, Skort and Leggings
RSA Tie	RSA Socks		RSA Tie	RSA Socks
Black School Shoes	Appropriate footwear		Black School Shoes	Appropriate footwear

Due to the recent issues regarding trying on clothes and returning uniform items, some parents have expressed difficulty in acquiring the required uniform items. The school, therefore, will allow some leniency on items such as RSA branded skirts. We expect all students to be smart, professional and present a positive first impression. Please contact your Head of Year if unsure.

Equipment

Current guidance from the Department for Education states that students must bring their own supply of stationery equipment. Due to the risk of contamination the school cannot lend or share equipment to students or between groups of people. Therefore, all students must bring a pack of equipment including:

- Black or blue ballpoint pens
- Pencils
- Ruler
- Eraser
- Highlighters
- Mathematical equipment
- Scientific calculator

We will continue to work with parents to ensure students are not disadvantaged. If demand arises, RSA will look into preparing packs of equipment for families to purchase. We will be creating a new school shop where students will be able to purchase equipment, should they need it.

Safety Measures

In the event of a symptomatic person coming into school, they will be sent home immediately or isolated until they can be collected. A student who presents symptoms will be isolated in the new medical room or Boardroom located above the pastoral entrance on Shipbrook Road. If more than one student presents symptoms, they will be isolated separately.

In the case of a symptomatic pupil who needs to be supervised before being picked up:

- If a distance of 2m can't be maintained, supervising staff will wear a fluid-resistant surgical mask
- If contact is necessary, supervising staff will also wear disposable gloves and a disposable apron
- If there's a risk of splashing to the eyes, such as from coughing, spitting or vomiting, supervising staff will also wear eye protection

Supervising staff will wash their hands thoroughly for 20 seconds after the pupil has been picked up. A deep clean will take place in the areas that the symptomatic person has been in, and PPE will be disposed of properly, following [decontamination guidance](#). If the school becomes aware that a pupil or a staff member has tested positive for coronavirus, the school will contact the [local health protection team](#). The team will carry out a rapid risk assessment to confirm who's been in close contact with the person, and these people will be asked to self-isolate. If there are 2 or more confirmed cases within 14 days, or an overall rise in sickness absence where coronavirus is suspected, the school will work with the local health protection team to decide if additional action is needed. Any advice given by the team will be followed. Everyone will



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be asked not to come into school if they need to self-isolate under [current guidance](#). Regular reminders will be given about this through school newsletters. We would ask that parents remain in their vehicles if dropping off students at their designated entrance/exit points, and to book appointments to meet with members of staff in school. Visitor entry to the main reception will be limited to booked appointments only.

Key Contact Information

If you have any enquiries, please use our dedicated Parent Enquiries email address – parents@rudheathsenioracademy.org.uk and a member of the new business support team will field your message to the relevant member of staff.

The following staff are also key contacts for their respective areas:

Year 7	Mrs Sarah Pierce, Head of Year 7 Mr Gareth Coyne, Year 7 Curriculum Leader
Year 8	Mr Phillip Brown, Head of Year 8
Year 9	Miss Kiera Fleming, Head of Year 9
Year 10	Mrs Grace Lycett, Head of Year 10
Year 11 Pastoral Team	Mrs Amanda Cooper, Head of Year 11
Safeguarding	Mrs Jemma Morrell, Designated Safeguarding Lead
Reporting attendance/absence	Mrs Dawn Williamson, Attendance Officer
SEND	Mrs Lydia Garrett, SENDCo
Finance, including Free School Meals, Trips & Visits	Sophie Sutcliffe, Business Administration Assistant
Parent Communications	Jack Jevons, Business Manager

I hope that this information provides you with the reassurances you need and that the arrangements we have put in place will mean that students and staff will be as safe as possible. I know the first days and weeks of term will be a challenge for us all but we will soon get into a routine which will enable our students to enjoy their lessons following what has been a significant disruption to their normal way of learning.

Upon their return, students will have access to our brand new classrooms and see the ongoing progress and commitment that is being made to ensure their education and learning surroundings are what they deserve. Whilst Covid-19 may have restricted access to education in some ways, I am confident that this September will be a bright and fresh start for the school in the next step of our exciting journey.

Any questions you may have will be answered in our weekly bulletin, which will be communicated home each Friday from the start of the next academic year. This will also provide important updates about Rudheath and any amendments to the organisational changes that have been outlined. We have huge plans and aspirations for RSA next year; hopefully you will support us in achieving our goals.

In the meantime, I hope that you enjoy the rest of your holidays. We look forward to welcoming you back in September. I will be in touch with news of open days/tours of new facilities very soon.

Yours faithfully,

Lee Barber
Headteacher