



Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you have had an enjoyable summer holiday. I'm sure you know already, my name is Mrs Rebecca Newton and it is a real privilege to have been appointed as Headteacher at Reedings Junior School. My career to date has been spent in London, where most recently I have been a Head of School at a Primary School in North London.

It was wonderful to meet some of your children at holiday camp over the summer and it is really exciting to be able to continue the great work of Mrs Webber and her team and I look forward to meeting you all properly in the coming few weeks. In the meantime, I will endeavour to make myself available at the gates every morning and after school if you have any questions, concerns or would just like to say hello. Alternatively, please contact the school office via email or phone (01279722578) to book an appointment to speak with me.

I am not the only new starter this year and would like to extend a particularly warm welcome to our newest children from Fawbert and Barnards Infant School.

It is an unusual time for us all and I would also like to take the opportunity to thank you for your patience and understanding and assure you that we are following government guidelines and have a robust risk assessment in place to make sure your child's return to school is both safe and happy.

3rd September – Re-opening to all children:

Below is a reminder of the arrangements for drop off and pick up that were sent to you by Mrs Webber on Friday 17th July.

Drop off:

Years 3-6 will be able to go **straight into their classrooms** between **8:30 and 8:50am**.

As per the government guidance, there will be a one-way system in place along the pavement outside of school to prevent overcrowding at the gates and pedestrian crossing. Please could I ask that you say goodbye to your children before you reach the gate to avoid congestion. There will then be plenty of staff on hand to make sure they find their way safely into their classrooms. If your child is in Year 3, you will be allowed to come onto the school playground to say goodbye at the Year 3 classroom doors during the first week.

Pick up:

At the end of the day half of the playground, nearest the gates, will be open for parents/carers to come in to collect their children.

- At **3:00pm, Year 3** children will be dismissed **from their classrooms**.
Parents/Carers can wait outside the Year 3 classroom doors.
- At **3:05pm, Year 4** children will be dismissed **from the playground**.
Parents/Carers can wait in the half of the playground nearest the gate.
- At **3:15pm, Years 5 and 6** will be dismissed **from the playground**.
Parents/Carers can wait in the half of the playground nearest the gate.

When entering or exiting the school through the gate, please do keep to the left and follow the one-way system along the pavement.

Lunch and Playtime:

To further ensure children remain safely in their year group bubbles during lunch, children will have a staggered lunchtime slot in the canteen. Lunch sitting for some children will begin at 11:45am and for some will begin at 1pm. Spreading lunch sittings across this time frame allows a 20-minute window for children to have lunch and a



5-minute window for cleaning. It is therefore important to provide your child with a bottle of water and a healthy snack to have at playtime to see them through to lunch.

As the lunch period has needed to be extended and the timeframe for lunch sittings is only 20-minutes for each bubble, the menu is being adjusted and will be emailed on Wednesday.

The playground and field have been split into four zones with each bubble assigned a new zone to play within each week. Adults from your child's bubble will be outside with them.

Classrooms:

We are now able to move back to our usual capacity of around 30 children per classroom. Each child will have their own stationary and will stay at the same desk throughout the day. Robust cleaning arrangements are in place for shared resources and the school has undergone a deep clean during the holidays.

Curriculum and Extra-Curricular:

Unfortunately, we will be unable to welcome back parent volunteers or hold any events as we usually would, but we look forward to a time when it is safe to do so. In the meantime, rest assured that there is a plan in place to reactivate learning for all children with a focus on mental health and wellbeing. As this will rule out class assemblies, we will be celebrating children's learning and keeping you up to date with school life through a fortnightly newsletter.

I write to confirm arrangements for music and swimming lessons in the first few weeks.

There has not been enough uptake for 'Energy Kidz' to resume the breakfast and after school club from the start of the term. This will be reviewed on September 21st to see if more families have signed up online.

Mr Williams will be sending out a letter regarding sports clubs for each bubble in the first week back.

Happiness Project:

Children will be taking part in a whole school 'Happiness Project' at the start of the first full week back, where they will be asked to think about what makes them happy in order to inform a final art piece, so please do ask them about this at home. They may be asked by their teacher to bring in pictures or items to help with the project.

Latest Travel Guidance:

Just a reminder that if you have travelled to a country that is not on the travel corridor list you may need to self-isolate for 14 days. Please see updated guidance and contact the school office via phone or email if you are unsure or are required to isolate.

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-travel-corridors>

Finally, thank you once again for your understanding and co-operation and I very much look forward to getting to know you and your children.

Best wishes,

Mrs Rebecca Newton

Headteacher