Rainbow Rules for Staying Safe – Guide for Parents / Carers and Children

The most important thing that we do at school is to keep each other safe and look after each other.

This is always important, but especially at the moment; we all need to make sure that we are doing everything we can to keep each other safe and look after each other.

We've all got used to staying at home as much as we can, staying 2m away from others, washing our hands carefully and often, and being careful to protect others if we need to cough or sneeze.

When schools re-open we will need to keep doing these things to make sure that we, our families, our friends and our teachers stay safe. Because schools are busier places than our homes, we have needed to make some careful plans about how to help everyone stay safe.

This means that some things at school will have to be a bit different to how they were before we closed for most pupils in March.

Our rules at school are always meant to be a reminder of what we should do to stay safe and to help everyone have a positive time at school. We thought it was best to think of what new rules we needed to help remind everyone of how to stay safe.

We have called these our "Rainbow Rules for Staying Safe" and these seven rules are shared on posters around school and in every classroom.



Our Rainbow Rules for Staying Safe are:

- Bubbles We work, eat and play in our bubble.
- Distance We keep a social distance when we work and play.
- Cover Cough, blow or sneeze? Catch it, kill it, bin it.
- Speak up Tell someone if you feel poorly.
- Wash and Avoid Wash you hands for 20 seconds and remember not to touch your face.
- Personalise Only use your own equipment.
- Wellbeing Share your worries whatever they are.

We know that it is important for us to share our rules with children at school and remind them about these rules often. We will keep doing this when school re-opens for more children – including frequent reminders about our new Rainbow Rules for Staying Safe.

We know that the rules that are most important are the ones that help everyone stay safe and it will be very important for everyone at school to follow these new rules very carefully. Grown-ups in school will remind children about these rules if they think they have forgotten to follow one of them.

Depending on which bubble children are in, their own teacher will share with them specific arrangements for their bubble about:

- entering school in the morning
- leaving school at home time
- using the toilet
- handwashing
- breaktimes including where they can play
- moving around school
- moving around the classroom

Working together with parents

As a school we always endeavor to work with parents on any behaviour issues. This typically results in fantastic behaviour from our children – we often get compliments from visitors, including during our recent OFSTED inspection.

However, during these unprecedented times we feel it is important to be very clear about how we intend to keep children safe as we open the school to more children.

As a school we will:

- Explicitly teach and remind children about our new rules.
- Continue to use a consistent approach to behaviour (rewards and sanctions) throughout school using our traffic light system and stamp charts.
- Contact parents for discussion if children are not behaving safely.
- As a last resort, consider sending children home if their behaviour is:
 - deemed unsafe to themselves or others
 - deliberate and persistent
 - increases the risk of the spread of coronavirus

We ask parents to:

- Adhere to government guidance on social distancing and support our efforts to create a safe environment.
- Talk to their children regularly about the Rainbow Rules at home.
- Be available to come into school to discuss their child's behaviour if we think that further reminders about the importance of staying safe are needed.
- Treat any incidents whereby their child is deliberately making it less safe for anyone else in school extremely seriously (for instance, spitting or coughing on another person intentionally) and understand that if this continues the child may have to go home.