



Rye College
The Grove, Rye, East Sussex TN31 7NQ
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www.ryecollege.co.uk

Executive Headteacher: Mr Barry Blakelock
Head of College: Mr Dom Downes

11th September 2020

Dear Families,

We were delighted to finally open Rye College and welcome all of our students back on Thursday, 3rd September. For some, this will have the first time they had entered the school since Friday, 20th March. For our new Year 7s, it may have been the first time they had ever been to the school.

It is clear that the students are keen to get back to school and back into classroom based learning. We were very pleased how quickly they returned to the rhythm of learning at Rye College. However, we recognise that every child's experience of the lockdown and the on-going situation will be unique. Please contact us, if there are any issues we are not aware of at office@ryecollege.co.uk.

Today, we have completed a full week of education and I thought it would be useful to provide you with some feedback about how the new routines and systems are working. The vast majority of students have adapted really quickly to the routines and procedures we are using to minimise the risk of infection. Students are using hand sanitiser when they enter and exit buildings and classrooms. Students are using the one-way system and the staggered break-times effectively. Colleagues and students are getting used to the classroom layout and focusing on the learning well. Continuing to follow these measures will help students and staff reduce the risk of infection.

It is equally important that Rye College students adhere to the Government guidelines during their journey to and from the school. I am sure that you are aware through both the local and national media that there are deep concerns relating to social distancing and face coverings. It is vital that we remind all of our children to play their part in keeping everyone safe. Please could you remind your child that they must:

- **Use a face covering (unless unable to do so) in local businesses and when using public transport.**
- **Maintain social distancing (at least one metre when outside) when travelling to and from school, including when on public transport.**

During tutor time we will reiterate the above messages as well as remind students to socialise side by side rather than face to face at break times.

Please refer to the [Government guidelines](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-in-the-autumn-term) for further advice on children and schools:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-in-the-autumn-term>



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School uniform

Students should wear the school uniform at all times. Students may wear their Rye College PE kit on the days that they have PE. Hoodies and non-uniform tops should not be worn over PE kit. Students may use their school jumper or blazer.

We are aware that there have been supply issues with the new uniform at Superstitch86. Thank you for your patience and we hope that the issue will be resolved shortly.

Please can I also remind you that any student with COVID-19 symptoms **MUST** not attend school nor should anyone who has been asked to self-isolate by NHS Test and Trace or is isolating following returning from a foreign country and needing to quarantine. The absence for students in these circumstances will be coded differently and school work will be set via Classcharts.

Yours faithfully,

Mr. D. Downes
Head of College

