

19<sup>th</sup> March 2021

Dear Families,

I hope that you and your loved ones are all well. It has been another great week at Riverside School, with a renewed sense of hope and optimism as we enter what we hope will be sunnier times ahead. Our Riverside Roadmap, sent out with last week's letter, is very much up and running and we really hope that as the weeks pass, we will be able to achieve what we have set out to achieve in it. For ease of reference, please see our Roadmap again here:

National Roadmap stages	Riverside Roadmap stages	Actions
<b>Stage 1a:</b> From 8 <sup>th</sup> March  <b>Stage 1b:</b> From 29 <sup>th</sup> March	<b>Stage 1:</b> 8 <sup>th</sup> March – 31 <sup>st</sup> March (weeks 1 – 4)  EASTER HOLIDAY	<b><i>If everything is moving in the right direction ...</i></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Full time return for all pupils (unless in exceptional medical circumstances)</li> <li>• New staffing flexibilities as required</li> <li>• Move to home testing programme for staff</li> <li>• Return of Extended Services provision</li> <li>• Return to some face-to-face meetings (with appropriate control measures in place)</li> <li>• In-person support from other agencies (eg ICT) on all sites as necessary</li> <li>• Therapists working directly with pupils (with appropriate control measures in place)</li> </ul>
<b>Stage 2:</b> From 12 <sup>th</sup> April	<b>Stage 2:</b> 19 <sup>th</sup> April – 14 <sup>th</sup> May (weeks 5 – 8)	<b><i>If everything is moving in the right direction ...</i></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Class drop ins by line leaders and follow up meetings (with appropriate control measures in place)</li> <li>• Out of hours parental visits</li> <li>• Certain visitors allowed into school (with restrictions and on a case-by-case basis)</li> <li>• 1:1 community walks (where appropriate and on a case-by-case basis)</li> <li>• Movement between sites for specific staff as required</li> <li>• Performing Arts Hall and Dance Studio open to classes (with appropriate control measures in place)</li> </ul>
<b>Stage 3:</b> From 17 <sup>th</sup> May	<b>Stage 3:</b> 17 <sup>th</sup> May – 18 <sup>th</sup> June (weeks 9 – 12)	<b><i>If everything is moving in the right direction ...</i></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Small numbers of classes to come together for lunchtimes and playtimes</li> <li>• Shared spaces reinstated (after assessment of need and with appropriate control measures in place)</li> <li>• More flexible use / sharing of staff rooms</li> <li>• Pool open for particular pupils (with preparation and training undertaken as necessary)</li> <li>• Parental visits (with appropriate control measures in place)</li> </ul>
<b>Stage 4:</b> From 21 <sup>st</sup> June	<b>Stage 4:</b> 21 <sup>st</sup> June – 23 <sup>rd</sup> July (weeks 13 – 17)	<b><i>If everything is moving in the right direction ...</i></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consideration of phase assemblies and wider school gatherings, eg Summer Fair / Riverfest</li> <li>• Possible trips for some classes (including walking / use of minibuses / off-site swimming)</li> <li>• Potential cross-site visits to use certain facilities (eg Performing Arts Hall, pool)</li> </ul>

As promised in previous letters, we will continue to update you on a weekly basis should any of our pupils or staff receive a positive COVID-19 test result across the school. We will of course inform you immediately if your child is directly affected. I can confirm that, since last Friday, through our asymptomatic testing programme, we have had just one member of staff testing positive in one of our Secondary classes at Riverside SPC, resulting in one class having to self-isolate.

One thing that has been particularly noticeable in recent weeks has been the continued sense of togetherness across our three sites and whether your child is at Riverside Beckenham, Riverside West Wickham or Riverside SPC, they, and you, are very much part of the wider whole school community. As and when we are able to “open up” even more in the weeks and months ahead, we can’t wait to bring people together in ways that we haven’t been able to recently.

This weekend marks exactly one year to the day that schools were directed to close their doors for the vast majority of children. I don’t think that any of us knew then that we would be where we are today and we hope that, as a school, we have provided you and your child with the type of support that has made a positive difference. I am sure that over the coming days, weeks and months there will many quiet reflections and shared memories, both happy and sad, as well as conversations about “lessons learnt” from the past year. In the meantime, given that the theme of Rainbows has been prominent for us, as it has been for so many others, we wanted to share our very own recent Riverside Rainbow with you.



Rainbows are seen as a symbol of hope and we are all looking forward with real hope for brighter times ahead. Times of joy, laughter, fun and friendship and in this spirit, we hope you enjoy our Red Nose Day photos [HERE](#)

Have a good weekend and with very best wishes,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "SSolomons".

Steve Solomons  
Headteacher