



RAINHILL  
HIGH SCHOOL

# PARENT NEWSLETTER

IN PURSUIT OF EXCELLENCE

29<sup>th</sup> August 2020

Dear Parents and Students,

We hope you are enjoying a relaxing summer break. Ahead of our return to school, it is important to share some essential information with you which is contained in this Parent Newsletter and within the links below.

It is important that parents and students view the information video by clicking on the link below before you start the new academic year.

[View Information Video](#)

Please also take time to read the Risk Assessment by clicking the link below which gives information on the steps the school has taken to ensure the safety of both students and staff.

[View Risk Assessment](#)

You should have by now received the Summer Information Pack in the post which is also full of important information.

A reminder that Year 7 pupils will be in school on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> September at 8:45am.

We look forward to welcoming all other Year groups on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September at 8:45am.

If you have any questions or concerns, do not hesitate to contact the school.

*Mrs Thorogood, Headteacher.*





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## **KEY STAGE 3 BANDING**

With the move to a three-year Key Stage 3, we have taken the opportunity to evolve our curriculum further to ensure all pupils receive a broader and more balanced curriculum as prescribed by the Key Stage 3 National Curriculum.

We have also reviewed how we group our pupils.

From September, the following arrangements will apply:

- Year 7: will be taught in mixed ability form groups (except a small group with specific needs). This will move to broader grouping based on ability after October half-term.
- Year 8: will be taught in 5 bands (V, W, X, Y and Z). Bands V, W, Y, Z will have 2 groups and X band will have 3 groups. Each group is broadly based on ability.
- Year 9: will be taught in 4 bands V, W, XY and Z. V, W and Z will have 2 groups broadly based on ability. XY will have 5 groups broadly based on ability.

All groups will follow the same curriculum. The groups have been composed to ensure all pupils are able to maximise their potential.

It is important that after such a significant period away from school that your child is allowed to time to fully experience their timetable.

## **FAQs**

### **What is different?**

Each group will cover a broader range of ability than it did previously. We have worked with class teachers, pastoral staff, the SEN team and senior leaders to ensure that the groups are composed to maximise the progress of all pupils.

### **My child was in 8x2 and is now in 9xy4 for some of the subjects. Why has she gone down two sets?**

There has not been a set move down. All that has happened is that x band has been joined with y band for some subjects in Y9. 8x1 and 8z1 have mostly been grouped into 9xy1 and 9xy2 and 8x2 and 8z2 have mostly been grouped into 9xy3 and 9xy4. So, your daughter's 9xy4 set will mostly have pupils from her old 8x2 alongside other pupils who were in 8z2.

### **Is V Band the top band?**

No, all bands have an equal range of abilities.

### **Which Modern Foreign Language(s) will my child study?**

All year 7 pupils will study French.

Year 8 students will study French and either Spanish or German (a survey was sent out after the taster lessons last term, all those who expressed a preference have been placed in the language of their choice).

Year 9 students will continue with the languages they studied last year. If a pupil was in a group that only studied French last year they will start an additional language this year.

### **Can my child move groups?**

Please allow time for your child to experience their lessons before contacting the school about their group. Please note we cannot make any changes to individual subjects unless there are exceptional circumstances.





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## PROPOSED LEARNING PROGRAMME (LP) ASSESSMENTS/EXAMS FOR 2020/2021

Year Group	LP1	LP2	LP3	Other
Y13	Exams commencing 9 <sup>th</sup> November 2020. Reports issued 4 <sup>th</sup> December 2020.	On-going teacher assessment for reports issued on 12 <sup>th</sup> February 2021.	Exams commencing 1 <sup>st</sup> March 2021. Reports issued 23 <sup>rd</sup> April 2021.	
Y12	On-going teacher assessment for reports issued on 27 <sup>th</sup> November 2020.	On-going teacher assessment for reports issued on 5 <sup>th</sup> March 2021.	Exams commencing 21 <sup>st</sup> June 2021. Reports issued on 16 <sup>th</sup> July 2021.	Induction Tests w/c 28 <sup>th</sup> September 2020
Y11	On-going teacher assessment for reports issued on 23 <sup>rd</sup> October 2020.	Exams commencing 7 <sup>th</sup> December 2020. Reports issued on 21 <sup>st</sup> January 2021.	Exams commencing 15 <sup>th</sup> March 2021. Reports issued 30 <sup>th</sup> April 2021.	
Y10	On-going teacher assessment for reports issued on 20 <sup>th</sup> November 2020.	On-going teacher assessment for reports issued on 26 <sup>th</sup> March 2021.	Exams commence 3 <sup>rd</sup> May 2021. Reports issued 17 <sup>th</sup> June 2021.	
Y9	On-going teacher assessment for reports issued on 27 <sup>th</sup> November 2020.	Exams commence 18 <sup>th</sup> January 2021. Reports issued 24 <sup>th</sup> February 2021.	On-going teacher assessment for reports issued on 2 <sup>nd</sup> July 2021.	
Y8	On-going teacher assessment for reports issued on 11 <sup>th</sup> December 2020.	On-going teacher assessment for reports issued on 26 <sup>th</sup> March 2021.	Exams commence 10 <sup>th</sup> May 2021. Reports issued 25 <sup>th</sup> June 2021.	
Y7	On-going teacher assessment for reports issued on 4 <sup>th</sup> December 2020.	On-going teacher assessment for reports issued on 19 <sup>th</sup> March 2021.	Exams commence 14 <sup>th</sup> June 2021. Reports issued 16 <sup>th</sup> July 2021.	

On-going teacher assessment means that your child will receive a current 'fine' working grade based upon classwork and homework completed during that period if they are in Year 9 to Y13. For children in Y7 and Y8 we will be reporting whether they are 'above', 'on' or 'below' track based on how well they did at Primary school and how we would expect them to perform at High school. All on-going assessment is based upon a combination of homework, in class assessments/tests, and end of unit tests etc.





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Exams for lower school (Year 7 to Year 9) will be undertaken in class. Exams for the upper school (Year 10 LP3 and Year 11) will be undertaken in the Sports Hall to prepare your child for the rigours of GCSE examinations. Exams for the Sixth Form are completed in the Arts Theatre/Gym to ready your son/daughter for the rigour of A Level.

Timetables for all exams will be published well in advance via the student/parent newsletter to allow your child the opportunity to revise in plenty of time.

Please note that exam dates and published dates for reports are on the printed calendar which was sent to you in the August information pack.

*Mr Cunningham, Deputy Headteacher – Director of Studies.*

## **KEY TO SUCCESS FILES**

New Year 7 pupils will be given a Key to Success file as part of their induction process.

For all others students, it is important that you **BRING IN YOUR KEY TO SUCCESS FILE** as you will be using it again this year.

You will be given new inserts for this and we will be getting your files ready for 2020-2021 during form time on your first day

If you have lost your file or want to buy a new one, they are available at a cost of **£5**. You will need to bring the money in on the first day.

*Mrs Segal, Deputy Headteacher.*

## **WELCOMING CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE BACK TO SCHOOL AND COLLEGE**

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you are managing to rest and enjoy your summer break.

Please see below details of the Council website 'Back to School' which has been created.

This is a new website for parents, carers and their children and is part of the 'All in' attendance strategy. The site contains the latest government guidance for parents, some videos relating to top tips and will be added to as new documents are developed.

<https://www.sthelens.gov.uk/backtoschool>

*Jo Davies, Assistant Director Education, Early Help and Children's Health.*

## **MERSEYTRAVEL UPDATE**

Earlier this year, parents were asked to complete a survey regarding a possible change of bus route to accommodate students living in and around the Lowfield Lane area of St Helens. Unfortunately, we have now had confirmation from Merseytravel that they are unable to extend the existing service and there are no planned changes to the services for Rainhill High School due to costs involved and the impact on existing users. If you wish to raise any issues regarding the bus services, they should be directed to Merseytravel direct as the school is not involved in any decision making around timetables / routes etc.





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Dear Parents,

Please view the link below that provides the latest up to date information from Government in relation to public transport and school restart. The guidance focusses on part A, mainstream services, and part B, dedicated school services.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/transport-to-school-and-other-places-of-education-autumn-term-2020>

Following the release of this guidance Merseytravel has written to the transport providers of our supported services to advise them of this new information with a view to take the necessary steps to reintroduce those tendered services that serve schools from the start of the Academic Term in September 2020. Merseytravel Supported Services are to recommence as per contract from the start of the new academic year.

It is appreciated that in addition to the supported bus network operated on behalf of Merseytravel, that a significant number of pupils across the Liverpool City Region travel instead on the commercial bus network. Merseytravel is currently working with commercial transport providers to support a coordinated approach to service provision for commercial routes.

In line with this restart our wider City Region TDM Messaging is currently being developed and will be communicated shortly to all stakeholders, it will encourage active travel and other modes of transport whilst emphasising that public transport is available for those who need such.

In addition to the messaging that will follow I would draw your attention to the following points to highlight:

- Changes in Government guidance permits Merseytravel Supported Services to schools to return to pre Covid19 capacity levels. Social Distancing will not apply to dedicated services to schools but our TDM messaging will highlight that it is mandatory for school children to wear face coverings (unless covered by one of the valid exemptions). Whilst social distancing is not mandatory, we will still encourage this where possible. Vehicles where possible will operate with open vents and windows at all times.
- Children using bus services will be expected to tender the correct fare or present a valid concessionary or prepaid ticket to travel. Contactless payment is also promoted where this is an option.
- Government guidance through the pandemic has required transport operators enhance the cleaning of service vehicles, particularly around frequent touch points. These arrangements have been in place for some time.
- Please note that Drivers are not required to enforce or manage issues other than the safe operation of the service, we therefore request that schools continue to support loadings at the end of the school day and where necessary support our TDM Message around social distancing and that face coverings are mandatory, unless exemptions apply to an individual.
- Transport operators are required to have a risk assessment in place for service operation and in the pandemic that extends to mitigating risks associated with Covid19. Mersey travel have requested that operators continuously review and keep this information available as we restart school services. Should your school require further information in relation to these specific assessments, this will be available upon request from the service operator.





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## MENU

FROM SEPTEMBER 2020

Week 1	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>Main Meal</b>	Beef Lasagne with Garlic Slice & Side Salad	Chicken Curry served with Steamed Rice	Minced Beef Cottage Pie served with Garden Peas	Pork Sausages with Mashed Potato served with Gravy & Carrots	Crispy Battered Cod served with Chips & Peas
<b>Vegetarian Meal</b>	Broccoli & Cauliflower Bake, served with a Garlic Slice (v)	Roasted Vegetable Hot Pot, served with Steamed Broccoli (v)	Red Pepper Quiche served with Salad & Sweetcorn (v)	Mushroom & Leek Cottage Pie served with Carrots (v)	Courgette & Pepper Moussaka served with a Garlic Slice (v)
<b>Snack of the Day</b>	Spicy Chicken Wrap Margherita Pizza	Cheese & Pepperoni Ciabatta Tomato & Basil Pizza	Crispy Zinger Chicken in a Bun Mushroom Pizza	PiriPiri Chicken Panini Chilli Chicken Pizza	Chicken Pieces with Chips Cheese & Tomato Pizza
<b>Baked Potato Filling</b>	Cheesy Coleslaw	Chicken Mayonnaise	Mediterranean Vegetables	Madras Coleslaw	Sweet Chilli Vegetables
<b>Hot Pasta &amp; Sauce Choice</b>	Tomato & Basil (v)	Arribiatta (v)	Tomato & Basil (v)	Pomodoro (v)	Spicy Tomato (v)
<b>Dessert</b>	Chocolate Muffin Flapjack Shortbread Fresh Fruit Pot	Chocolate Muffin Flapjack Shortbread Fresh Fruit Pot	Chocolate Muffin Flapjack Shortbread Fresh Fruit Pot	Chocolate Muffin Flapjack Shortbread Fresh Fruit Pot	Chocolate Muffin Flapjack Shortbread Fresh Fruit Pot





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## MENU

FROM SEPTEMBER 2020

Week 2	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>Main Meal</b>	Chilli Pasta Bake topped with Nachos served with a Garlic Slice	Meat & Potato Pie served with Gravy & Roasted Vegetables	Sizzling Stir Fry Beef & Noodles in Hoi Sin Sauce	Chicken & Leek Hot Pot served with Carrots & Gravy	Crispy Battered Cod served with Chips & Peas
<b>Vegetarian Meal</b>	Cajun Roasted Vegetable Naan served with Salad (v)	Cheese Pastry Whirl served with Roasted Vegetables (v)	Chick Pea & Spinach Curry served with Rice (v)	Spicy Vegetable Enchiladas served with Salad & Garlic Slice (v)	Vegetable Chow Mein (v)
<b>Snack of the Day</b>	Cheese & Onion Ciabatta Margherita Pizza	Sweet Chilli Chicken Wrap Tomato & Basil Pizza	Crispy Zinger Chicken in a Bun Mushroom Pizza	Tuna & Cheese Panini Chilli Chicken Pizza	Chicken Pieces with Chips Cheese & Tomato Pizza
<b>Baked Potato Filling</b>	Cheesy Coleslaw	BBQ Chicken	Cheesy Tuna	Cajun Chicken	Piri Piri Vegetables
<b>Hot Pasta &amp; Sauce Choice</b>	Tomato & Basil (v)	Sweet Chilli Vegetables (v)	Spicy Tomato (v)	Pomodoro (v)	Arrabiatta (v)
<b>Dessert</b>	Chocolate Muffin Flapjack Shortbread Fresh Fruit Pot	Chocolate Muffin Flapjack Shortbread Fresh Fruit Pot	Chocolate Muffin Flapjack Shortbread Fresh Fruit Pot	Chocolate Muffin Flapjack Shortbread Fresh Fruit Pot	Chocolate Muffin Flapjack Shortbread Fresh Fruit Pot

