



Rosebrook Primary School, Rudyard Avenue, Roseworth,
Stockton-on-Tees, TS19 9LF

Tel: 01642 677985

Email: rosebrook@rosebrookprimary.org.uk

Website: www.rosebrookprimary.org.uk

Dear Parent / Carer

We hope that you and your family are well.

We would firstly like to thank you for completing the short survey we sent last week to parents of Reception, Y1 and Y6 children: it was really useful to get your views and to help us put this information together for you.

As a school, we have been very busy devising plans to reopen on a wider scale from 8th June to Reception, Year 1 and Year 6, and we would like to provide you with as much detail as possible so that you can make an informed decision on whether or not you wish to send your child(ren) back.

We appreciate there is a lot of information to take in so we are also going to produce a virtual tour video of our plans shortly. We will let you know when and where to access it. You will also be contacted by telephone during the week of 1st June by a member of our team to confirm your place.

Please read the section or sections which apply to your child(ren):

Year 6

Pupils will be placed in one of 6 groups on a rota. The groups have been well-thought out based on friendships, their secondary school and their class teacher. Each group will come into school for one week out of a possible 3. This is to ensure no group exceeds 10 and so that children have either Miss McQuade or Mr McGuinness upon their return.

Groups A and B will attend 8th – 12th June

Groups C and D will attend 15th – 19th June

Groups E and F will attend 22nd – 26th June

The school day will be from 9am until 3pm. Entry and exit will be through the Y6 pod door, and the social distancing recommendation of 2 metres will be clearly marked on the ground, in the form of yellow footprint stickers.

Every Friday will be a half day: 9am – 12.30pm. A packed lunch will still be provided.

Year 1

Pupils will be placed in one of 6 groups on a rota. The groups have been well-thought out based on friendships and children will have their usual class teacher. Each group will come into school for one week out of a possible 3. This is to ensure no group exceeds 10 and so that children have their own teacher.

Groups A and B will attend 8th – 12th June

Groups C and D will attend 15th – 19th June

Groups E and F will attend 22nd – 26th June

The school day will be from 9.20am until 2.40pm to lessen the number of parents and children on the yard at any one time. Entry and exit will be through the Y1 pod door, and the social distancing recommendation of 2 metres will be clearly marked on the ground, in the form of yellow footprint stickers.

Every Friday will be a half day: 9.20am – 12.20pm. A packed lunch will still be provided.

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Reception

We appreciate your children are still very young and will probably be out of a school-day routine so, for this reason, we are going to offer Reception children half days only (which we will review after 3 weeks).

Pupils will be placed in one of 6 groups on a rotation. The groups have been well-thought out based on friendships. Children in Mr Jones' class will have Mr Jones; unfortunately, Miss Akhter will not be in school - her class will have Mrs Duff or Mrs Armstrong who are our nursery teachers.

Each group will come into school for one week out of a possible 3. This is to ensure no group exceeds 10 and so that children are with a familiar adult. Rainbow Room children will still be based in the Rainbow Room.

Groups A and B will attend 8th – 12th June

Groups C and D (plus Rainbow Room A) will attend 15th – 19th June

Groups E and F (plus Rainbow Room B) will attend 22nd – 26th June

The school day will be from **9am until 12pm** (a packed lunch will be provided).

Entry and exit will be through the **nursery door** at the front of school, and the social distancing recommendation of 2 metres will be clearly marked on the ground, in the form of yellow footprint stickers.

Applies to All 3 Year Groups:

Lunches:

All children who attend will be offered a packed lunch. They will be able to choose from a selection of sandwich fillings and sundry items.

Parents do have the option of providing their own packed lunches if they wish but we recommend that it is in a plastic container rather than fabric (in line with Government guidance) or even better, in a disposable carrier bag which can be put in the bin at school, reducing the need for anyone having to bring items home.

Free School Meal Vouchers:

Families eligible for free school meals will still receive their vouchers, minus the days their children attend school. For example, if your child attends 1 week out of 3 weeks, you will receive a voucher for the remaining 2 weeks.

If none of your children attend school, you will get the full value of the vouchers as you have been doing now.

Equipment:

All stationery will be provided by school. Pencil cases and bags will NOT be allowed from home (in line with Government guidance).

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Uniform:

School uniform is optional. We understand that some children will have outgrown their uniform and we do not want parents to have the added pressure of buying new for the end of the school year. If you wish to send children in uniform, we will happily support this. There may be days when children access the Forest School or have PE and in which case, we will be recommending that they come to school dressed appropriately for this to save having to bring in additional items. You will get a timetable from teachers.

Coats:

If the weather is good, there is no need to send children in big outdoor coats. Lightweight jackets are perfectly fine as is no coat at all. Basically, we are trying to limit the number of personal, fabric belongings coming in from home.

Health and Safety:

We know that your biggest worry about sending your children to school is the risk of them being in contact with someone who is carrying the COVID 19 virus, bringing it home to you and the rest of your family.

While we cannot fully guarantee that children will remain 2 metres apart from any other person the whole time they are in school, we are putting in place stringent measures to reduce that risk. Some of them have been mentioned already.

- 1) Year groups will have their own entry and exit doors with stickers on the ground to show them where to queue. Children will exit and enter in a staggered fashion.
- 2) Year groups will have their own school day timings to avoid parents coming into contact on the yard. We ask that **only one parent** attends the school site to make it easier to socially distance.
- 3) Groups will be no bigger than 10 children and 2 adults (3 adults in Reception). Children will not mix with other groups, but they may have other adults delivering outdoor activities (such as PE and Forest School but they will be socially distanced) and there is scientifically less of a risk outdoors.
- 4) In Y1 and Y6, desks and chairs will be spaced out to ensure children are, for much of the time, 2 metres apart.
- 5) In Reception, the children will be spread out across nursery, reception and the outdoors to minimise the chances of children coming into close contact.
- 6) The movement along corridors will be regulated and only children from the same group will be moving around school at any one time.
- 7) The cleaning of surfaces such as desks, door handles and toilets will be carried out regularly throughout the time children are at school.
- 8) Items regularly touched by younger children, such as toys and play equipment, will be sanitised and washed regularly. The use of playdough etc will be discouraged as it is a breeding ground for germs from hands. Staff in reception will operate a "toys out" "toys in" bucket system so that once a toy has been played with, children put it into a container to be washed.
- 9) Deeper cleaning will take place each Friday afternoon to prepare for the next group the following week.
- 10) Children will wash their hands regularly for 20 seconds throughout the day – especially upon entry to school, before break time, after breaktime, before lunch and before leaving school to go home. If your child is sensitive to school soap, you can provide your own handwash and eczema cream on the Monday for the week.
- 11) Children will have staggered breaks and lunches and will only play with the children in their group.

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- 12) Items allowed from home will be kept to a bare minimum.
- 13) Footprints, cones and barriers will be used to help children remember social distancing.
- 14) Tissues will be available in each classroom and pedal bins with lids have been purchased for waste and to dispose of tissues in line with the "catch it, bin it, kill it" slogan.
- 15) Any child or adult displaying symptoms will be sent home immediately. They will be advised to take a test and if the result is positive, the whole group will stay at home to self-isolate for 14 days.

PPE (Personal Protective Equipment):

The Government guidance says that it is not recommended that school staff or children wear PPE; however, you will appreciate that we want to give people a choice. Therefore, we will have a stock of gloves, masks, visors, aprons etc for our staff should they choose to use them.

We will insist upon adults using them in instances where small children need to be changed or if a child becomes poorly during the day. Any adult administering first aid will be required to use PPE.

If you choose to provide your child with any of the above, you must be confident that they can use it appropriately as the worry is, if used incorrectly, it can increase the risk.

All our staff will have received training on how to use it appropriately before 8th June.

We have surveyed our staff and the vast majority agree that it may be too scary or inappropriate for the children and would therefore prefer not to use it.

Parents of Nursery children, Y2, Y3, Y4 and Y5:

Nursery: Ad Astra Academy Trust CEO has made his decision clear that no nursery children will be returning until further notice.

At present, there are no firm plans in place for children in Y2, 3, 4 or 5 to return, until further guidance has been released from the Government. We will let you know as soon as we begin planning for their return.

Summary:

In summary, we will do everything in our power to reduce the risk of every person at Rosebrook coming into contact with COVID 19, but we cannot 100% guarantee that staff and children will not touch, brush past or come within 2 metres of someone else. We are not prepared to punish children if they "forget" or break the social distance rules: we will remind them gently and clearly.

The decision is yours and we will support you with it. No matter what you decide, we will respect your decision. We will continue to support you and your family whether your children are in school or remain at home.

Our thoughts are with you as you make this incredibly difficult decision. We are surrounded by a huge amount of information and advice, some of it conflicting, but a decision must be made – in this matter we have no choice.

Sincere best wishes to you and your families: we know this is incredibly hard for everyone concerned.

Mr Huntington, Mrs Todd and Rosebrook Governing Body

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