



RISEDALE
A family of learners

RISEDALE SCHOOL

Headteacher: Mrs L Greenwood - BA (Dunelm), NPQH
Hipswell, Catterick Garrison, North Yorkshire. DL9 4BD
Tel: 01748 833501 | Email: enquiries@risedale.org.uk
www.risedale.org.uk | @RisedaleSchool @RisedaleFamily

Friday, 1st May 2026

Dear parent/carer,

IMPORTANT: Updates to School Punctuality and Attendance

We hope you are enjoying the recent warmer weather. It certainly makes getting up in the morning feel easier when the sun is shining! I wanted to write to you to remind you of our expectations around our pupils being on time to school every day. We know there are occasionally valid reasons which can impact arriving at school on time, such as a bus breaking down or a family crisis. However, **we want to see our pupils being in school on time, the majority of the time.** This is really important for many reasons.

The skill of being punctual is something that we want our pupils to develop whilst at school, to help them prepare for life after Risedale. We all know that **the skills of being reliable and on time are something employers see as a key priority.** Punctuality to school is also important because of the form tutor curriculum we have here at Risedale. Every morning, pupils see their form tutor at the start of the day and are set up to have a positive day. Missing this often means pupils miss key information or don't have the opportunity to feel "lesson ready". For a small minority of our pupils, they arrive so late (after 8.55 am) that we have to code it as a "U" code as per Department of Education guidance. This means that it is recorded as them being absent for the AM session. This obviously impacts their overall attendance percentage, which again could have a negative impact on life after Risedale when applying for college and apprenticeships.

You have to be in it to win it! In this case, we need our pupils to be in school to have the **BEST** chance to learn to their full potential. Data shows us that those with the strongest attendance outperform their peers in assessments. **By being late to school and lessons, pupils are missing valuable learning time.**

We know many of our pupils arrive every day on time and ready to learn. Form tutors and teachers will continue to praise and reward punctuality with positives in lessons, and the school will organise Reward events. For those who do not arrive at school on time with a valid reason, from **Tuesday, 5th May**, we will be issuing them with a same-day lunch detention. We are also going to be issuing detentions for those who receive 3 or more lates to lesson within a week. We will also communicate with you as parents and carers, so you can have follow-up discussions around why your child was late.

We look forward to working together to support your child being on time and ready to learn!

Yours sincerely,

Mrs L Greenwood
Headteacher

