



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

Thursday, 23rd October 2025

Dear parent/carers,

SUBJECT: Headteacher's Letter - October 2025

I hope this letter finds you well and that your child has settled well into Risedale if they have joined us this term, or that they are now back 'in the swing' of things if they are an established member of the Risedale Family! I would like to particularly praise our new Year 7 pupils, who have done fantastically and very much risen to the challenge of high school.

For new families at Risedale, I'd like to explain how we keep parents and pupils informed.

To ensure you and your child always have the information you need, I will send a **Headteacher's Letter** at the end of each half-term. This letter will provide important updates about the school, community messages, and key dates for your diary.

Throughout the year, you will also receive additional letters about parents' evenings, upcoming trips, events, and other important matters. We use various methods to communicate with parents, including post, email, [MCAS](#), telephone, and text. You can also find lots of information on our [website](#) and via our social media links: [Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [YouTube](#).

To ensure we celebrate the many wonderful things happening at Risedale, we also send out our **Keep in Touch ('KIT') Newsletter** at the beginning of each half-term. This newsletter will be packed full of good news and highlights from the previous weeks. The aim of the KIT Newsletter is to be 'a big shout out' for all of the amazing things our pupils are doing—both in and out of school—and the fantastic support given to them by our hard-working staff.

We encourage all families to take a moment to read the Headteacher and 'KIT' letters carefully. Being informed allows you to plan ahead and ensure your child is fully prepared for upcoming dates, trips, and events.

Thank you for your continued support and for being such a crucial part of the Risedale Family.

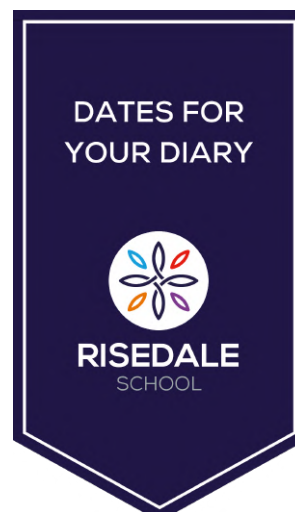
Greenwood.

Mrs L Greenwood
Headteacher



Dates for Your Diary

Monday 3 November	Start of Autumn Term 2 (pupils return)
4-11 November	Scholastic Book Fair
Friday 7 November	Ripon Cathedral Remembrance Service
Wednesday 12 November	Flu Vaccinations
Wednesday 19 November	Year 7 Tutor Chat
Wednesday 19 November	QE Fashion & Textiles Trip
Monday 8 December	Fu Vaccinations
Wednesday 10 December	Year 9 Consultation Evening
Wednesday 17 December	Christmas Dinner
22 Dec - 2 Jan	Christmas Holidays
Monday 5 January	Training Day
Tuesday 6 January	Start of Spring Term 1 (pupils return)



In December, we will send our dedicated Christmas letter for pupils and their families, detailing all the festive activities on offer during the Christmas period, including our popular Christmas Dinner and various charity events. Keep an eye out for it!

Website Page: [Calendar & Term Dates](#)

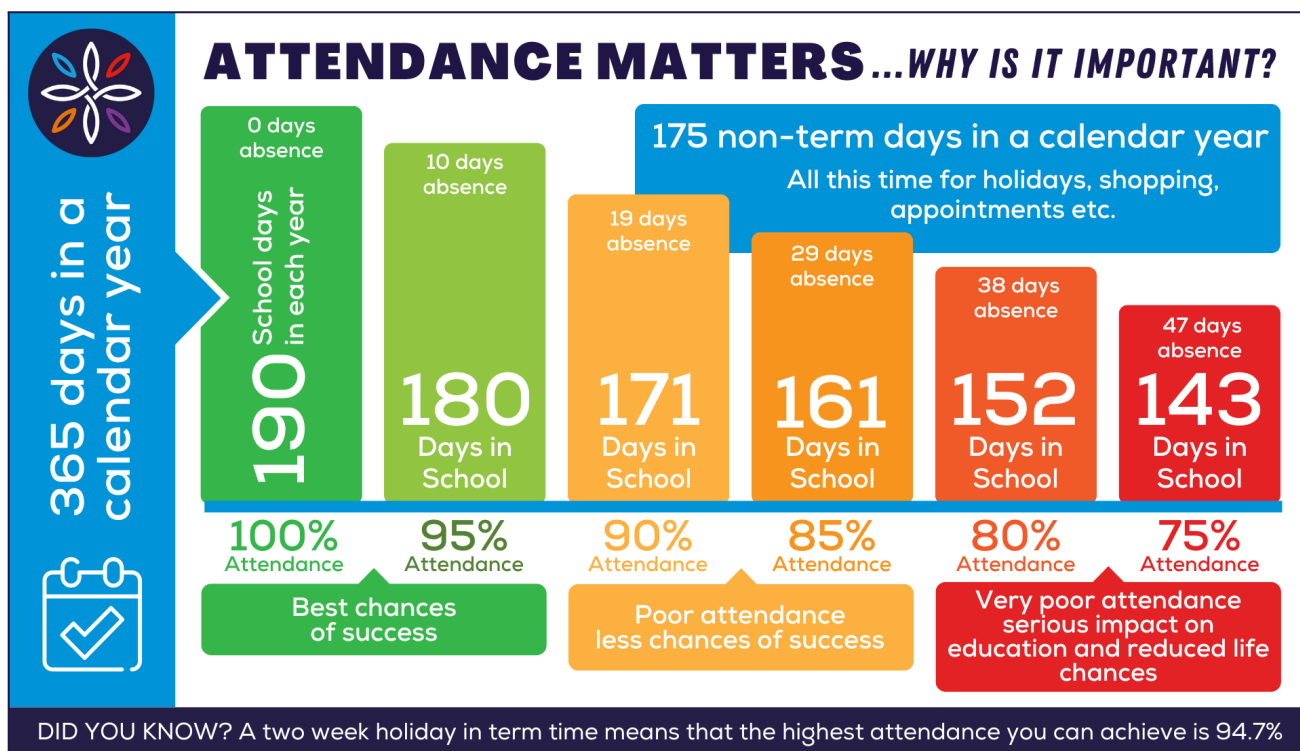


Attendance, Absence and Punctuality

Good attendance is the key to school success. There is a proven link between this and strong GCSE/KS4 outcomes. Nationally, pupils with 95-100% attendance were 2.4 times more likely to achieve at least a strong pass (grade 5) in English and Maths at GCSE than pupils with 85-90% attendance. In addition, pupils who attend regularly benefit from the connections and relationships school provides, and the social/emotional learning opportunities.

We ask for your support in ensuring your child is in school on time every day (by 8.20 am), unless they are too ill to function in school. Building good habits and expectations around school attendance is crucial from Year 7 (and ideally these should be fostered at primary school).

Website Page: [Attendance, Absence and Punctuality](#)



Safeguarding

The safety and wellbeing of our pupils is our top priority. If you have any concerns regarding Child Protection or Safeguarding, please contact our Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL), Mrs Cox, immediately at DSLsafeguarding@risedale.org.uk.

In Mrs Cox's absence, please contact one of our Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads (DDSLs): Mr Yates, Miss Burke or Lisa Smith.

A graphic titled "Meet the Safeguarding Team" with a colorful geometric background. It features a central box for the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) and four boxes for Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads (DDSLs), each with a circular portrait photo.

DESIGNATED SAFEGUARDING LEAD (DSL)
Senior Teacher: Mrs Sarah Cox
DSLsafeguarding@risedale.org.uk

DEPUTY DESIGNATED SAFEGUARDING LEADS (DDSL)

- Mr Yates**
Deputy Headteacher
- Miss Burke**
Senior Teacher
SENCo
- Lisa Smith**
School Counsellor
- Mrs Marshall**
Safeguarding Support Officer

Out-of-School Support:

We understand that concerns may arise outside of school hours, including during the half-term holiday. For access to important information and contact details for relevant agencies, please visit our dedicated **Website Page:** [Safeguarding](#)

Google Workspace for Education: Parent/Carer Agreement

All pupils currently have Google Workspace for Education accounts, which they use on Chromebook devices for completing classwork in school. The core Google Workspace for Education services are approved by the DfE and comply with GDPR. These core services include Google Classroom, Google Drive, Gmail, Google Docs, Google Sheets and Google Slides. Further information about core Google services can be found at [Google Workspace Terms of Service](#).

Some additional services, which can be beneficial in an educational context, such as Google Maps, Google Earth, and Google Translate, do not fall under the Google for Education agreement. They require parental consent for any users below the age of 18.

We feel that these additional services can provide an enhanced education experience and would request your permission to enable Google for Education's additional services for your child. Further information about Google's additional services can be found at [Service categories available to Google Workspace for Education Users](#).

Permission will be assumed unless you contact us via email at enquiries@risedale.org.uk or send a letter addressed to Risedale School, Hipswell, Catterick Garrison, North Yorkshire,

DL9 4BD to tell us that you do not wish for your child to access the additional services mentioned above.

By giving permission, you are agreeing to the following:

- Your child will have access to Google Maps, Google Earth, Google Translate and any other additional services which the school feels would be beneficial.
- You have read and understood the [Remote Learning Policy](#) published on the school website.

Risedale School Uniform Bank

Risedale School is pleased to announce the launch of our new Uniform Bank. This service provides FREE, pre-loved school uniform items to parents and carers throughout the academic year.

How to Request Uniform:

To enquire about or order uniform items, please email us at uniformbank@risedale.org.uk. When you email, be sure to include the sizes you need. We'll reply as soon as possible with more information.



The graphic features a teal background with a white banner at the top. On the left of the banner is a circular logo with a stylized flower in blue, orange, and purple. To the right of the logo, the text "RISEDALE SCHOOL UNIFORM BANK" is written in bold, dark blue capital letters. Below the banner, a row of uniform items is displayed: a black shoe, a black skirt, black trousers, a white short-sleeved shirt, a white long-sleeved shirt, a dark blazer, four colorful striped ties, a dark t-shirt, dark shorts, a white sneaker, and a red and black sneaker. Below the items, there are two dark blue rounded rectangular boxes. The left box is titled "Need Uniform?" and lists: "• FREE, pre-loved items.", "• Email your request to: uniformbank@risedale.org.uk", and "• Include sizes needed!". The right box is titled "Want to Donate?" and lists: "• Give back to other families." and "• Drop off clean, washed uniform at the school reception." In the center, overlapping the boxes, is a pink heart with the words "THANK YOU" in white. Below the heart is a white pill-shaped button with the text "Together, We Make A Difference!". At the bottom of the graphic, the text "#TEAMRISEDALE" is followed by four hearts in blue, purple, orange, and red. On the right side, there is an illustration of two hands, one holding a red heart and the other holding a green heart, with a circular arrow around them.

RISEDALE SCHOOL UNIFORM BANK

Need Uniform?

- FREE, pre-loved items.
- Email your request to: uniformbank@risedale.org.uk
- Include sizes needed!

Want to Donate?

- Give back to other families.
- Drop off clean, washed uniform at the school reception.

THANK YOU

Together, We Make A Difference!

#TEAMRISEDALE

Collecting Your Order:

Once your order is ready, you can collect the items from the school reception. We'll provide specific pickup details in our email correspondence with you.

How to Donate:

We are always grateful for donations of uniform items that are no longer needed. If you would like to donate, please drop off clean, washed uniform at the school reception.

Our Uniform Bank is a new venture, and stock is currently limited. We hope this service will grow and become an invaluable resource for the Risedale Family.

Thank you for your support. #TeamRisedale 



Service Children Spotlight: from our Service Pupil Manager, Dr Ellis

It's been a busy half-term for all pupils at Risedale! We'd like to give a special mention to our service children and families. We also extend a very warm welcome to all of our new pupils who have joined the Risedale family this term.



Service Pupil News and Events

We are delighted that pupils at Risedale have featured in this Autumn's edition of [Army and You Magazine](#), celebrating our strong links to the wider garrison community (Page 68).

This term, our service pupils recently took part in a pupil voice session with Lt Col Charlie Anderson and gave valuable insights into how to improve the provision for service pupils at Risedale.

If you would like to make a difference to the service pupil community, why not come to one of our service pupil drop-in sessions and speak to Dr Ellis about becoming a Service Pupil Ambassador?

Key Reminders

- Service pupil lunch time drop-in sessions take place every **Thursday** lunchtime in **Library 2**.
- **Remembrance:** Poppies and Poppy Key Rings will be sold by our Service Pupil Ambassadors ahead of Remembrance Day. We ask for a small donation. **Poppies will also be available to buy from the Library during break and lunch times.**

Self-Identification of Service Families – A Crucial Request

At Risedale, we understand the unique and distinct challenges facing military pupils and their families. We are passionate about meeting our service pupils' academic and pastoral needs so they are not educationally disadvantaged.

To provide the flexible, tailored support our service pupils deserve, we ask families to inform us at the earliest opportunity if your child is a service pupil.

Early identification allows us to:

- Offer **tailored pastoral support**, particularly during times of family separation, including deployments.
- Better understand pupil needs and help **mitigate the potential impact of mobility on their education.**
- Create an inclusive, supportive environment where our **service pupils are celebrated.**

We ask you to identify your child if they have:

- One or more parents/carers serving in the regular armed forces (including full-time reserve service or armed forces of another nation stationed in England).
- Been recorded as a 'Service child' in any school census in the past 6 years.
- A parent/guardian who is a veteran who has served at any point in the child's life.
- A pension under the Armed Forces Compensation Scheme or the War Pensions Scheme.

>> To help us provide the right support, please review the [Service Pupil Support Form](#). Additionally, complete our [Deployment Form](#) to inform us of any upcoming deployments.

Leaving us?

If you are due to be posted out of the area and will be leaving Risedale, please **do get in touch as early as possible** so that we can facilitate a smooth transition out of the school.

Contact Information

If you have any questions, please email our Service Pupil Manager, Dr Ellis, at: Ellis.S@risedale.org.uk. More information is available on our **Website Page:** [Service Children](#)



We Need YOU! Join Our New PTA and Make a Difference

We're putting out a fresh and urgent call for more parents and carers to join our new **Parent Teacher Association (PTA)**! We are excited to get this group up and running, but we need **more hands** to make it a success.

The PTA is a fantastic way for us to work together, enriching our school community and enhancing the experience for all our pupils.

How You Can Help

The PTA is your chance to directly contribute to our school community. We are looking for enthusiastic individuals to help us with everything from **planning fun school events** to **supporting essential fundraising efforts**. By joining, you can:

- **Make a real difference** to the resources & opportunities available to our pupils/your children
- **Connect with other parents** and build a stronger network
- **Be a voice for your child** and help shape their school experience.

Whether you have a lot of time to give or just a little, your contribution would be invaluable.

Let's work together to help every pupil be the **BEST** version of themselves, embodying our school's values of **RESPONSIBILITY**, **RESPECT**, **RESILIENCE**, and **RELATIONSHIPS**.

Ready to Get Involved?

If you're interested in learning more or would like to be involved, please email us today at PTA@risedale.org.uk.

JOB VACANCY: Caretaker and Groundsperson at Risedale School.

- **Salary/Grade:** £25,989 - £27,254 / Grade E Points 6 to 9
- **Contract:** Established, Full Year, Full Time
- **Hours:** 37 hours per week
- **Start Date:** As soon as possible
- **Closing Date:** 23:59 Thursday, 06th November 2025
- **Interview Date:** Friday, 14th November 2025

APPLY TODAY: [Caretaker and Groundsperson](#)

Do you take pride in maintaining and improving a safe, clean, and welcoming environment? We're looking for a proactive caretaker and groundsperson to join our team.

Risedale School is a thriving and dynamic secondary school committed to providing an exceptional learning environment for our pupils. We are seeking a dedicated and skilled team member to oversee the efficient and safe operation of our extensive school premises and to maintain our grounds.

This is a pivotal role that requires an eye for detail with excellent practical skills and a commitment to maintaining high standards across all aspects of our facilities. You will be instrumental in ensuring our school remains a safe, welcoming, well-presented and inspiring place for our pupils, staff, and the wider community.

Completed application forms should be emailed to jobs@risedale.org.uk or alternatively can be posted to Mrs L Greenwood, Headteacher, Risedale School, Hipswell, Catterick Garrison, North Yorkshire DL9 4BD.

PLEASE NOTE: The school will not accept referrals/CVs from supply or employment agencies for this post.



Job Vacancy

CARETAKER AND
GROUNDSPERSON



APPLY TODAY

RISEDAL SCHOOL

Hipswell
Catterick Garrison
North Yorkshire DL9 4BD

01748 833501
www.risedale.org.uk
enquiries@risedale.org.uk

Headteacher: Mrs L Greenwood (BA, NPOH)
11-16 Comprehensive School

Community Notices

Community Invitation: Remembrance Day Service

St John the Evangelist Church in Hipswell is holding its traditional Parish **Remembrance Day Service** on **Sunday, 9th November 2025**.

The community will gather around the War Memorial Cross at **10:30 AM** to observe the **two-minute silence at 11:00 AM**, and all families are invited to attend and join the act of remembrance.

Afterwards, refreshments will be served at Hipswell Village Hall, and for the convenience of all attendees, the **Hipswell School Car Park** will be open for parking.

Hipswell Parish Service of Remembrance

St John the Evangelist Church, Hipswell



**Sunday 9th November 2025
@ 10.30am**

Donations for the Royal British Legion
Providing support for members of the Royal Navy, British Army, Royal Air Force, veterans and their families. By donating, you're helping those in need within the Armed Forces Community.

“Start Safe, Stay Safe” New Street Harassment app to improve street safety in York and North Yorkshire.



A new app, **Start Safe, Stay Safe**, has been launched to improve street safety in York and North Yorkshire. It offers a straightforward and confidential way for members of the public to report street, town and city centre incidents.

It's free to download and available 24 hours a day, and provides a route through to [Stop Hate UK](https://www.stophateuk.org/), a 24/7 helpline, providing further guidance on support and reporting.

- Read the article in full [HERE](#).
- Download the app from the App Store: <https://apps.apple.com/gb/app/start-safe-stay-safe>
- Download the app from Google Play: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.stophateuk>

North Yorkshire Council Consultation: Proposed School Admission Arrangements 2027/28



We have been asked to share details relating to the proposed school admission arrangements for community and voluntary controlled schools 2027 to 2028. Parent/Carers and stakeholders are invited to review the documents and provide feedback as part of the formal consultation process.

The consultation documents and associated details can be viewed by following this link:

- [North Yorkshire Admissions Consultation Details](#).

Any comments regarding the draft arrangements must be submitted via the official response form here:

- [Submit Consultation Comments](#).

Please note that the deadline for submitting your feedback is Monday, 24th November.

North Yorkshire Council Consultation: Supporting Excluded Primary Pupils

North Yorkshire Council is seeking input on proposed changes to support primary-aged children who have been permanently excluded from school. The plan is to provide education through external providers at Pupil Referral Units (PRUs) that currently serve secondary-aged pupils.

They want to hear from parents, carers, schools, and professionals to help shape a service that meets the needs of children and families across North Yorkshire. Your feedback will help them build a more inclusive and sustainable approach to alternative provision.

Complete the survey by 9 November and have your say: [Alternative Provision for Primary Exclusions Consultation | North Yorkshire Council](#)

Watch 'The Run' and Discover Fostering

Fostering North Yorkshire is launching a national campaign to recruit more foster carers, marked by the release of 'The Run'—a powerful short film.

The film tells the moving story of **Tom, an 11-year-old boy** whose life begins to change for the better through the stability and care of a foster family. It's a poignant reminder of the profound impact fostering has on a young life.

Right now, Fostering North Yorkshire urgently needs more foster carers across the region. They hope this film will encourage someone to take that vital first step.

Watch the short film and learn how you can make a difference: [Fostering: North Yorkshire Council run-with-us-change-life](#)

'The Run' Film Link: https://youtu.be/g_ccxvLFdJg



Ready to find out more? Email: fostering@northyorks.gov.uk Call: 01609 534 654.

New Support Courses for Parents of Children with SEND

We are sharing an important opportunity from the **NYES SEND and Inclusion team**. They have launched a new round of **in-person courses** specifically designed to support parents and carers of children and young people in North Yorkshire with **Autism, Social, Emotional, and Mental Health (SEMH), and ADHD**.

These courses are a great chance for parents to:

- **Gain Practical Tools:** Find out more and learn effective strategies to help support your child or young person.
- **Connect with Others:** Meet other parents and carers facing similar experiences or sharing an interest in the topic.



NYESTRAINING.CO.UK
Unlocking Courses For Parents

Spaces for these courses fill up fast, so if you or someone you know could benefit, we strongly encourage **early booking** to avoid missing out! **Find out more and book your place here:** <https://nyestraining.co.uk/parents> Please note: For multi-day courses, attendance on all days is required, and course content will be shared with attendees afterwards.

Support and Resources from SENDIASS North Yorkshire

We are pleased to share two valuable new resources designed to support both our pupils and their families. These newsletters are provided by SENDIASS North Yorkshire www.sendiassnorthyorkshire.co.uk, which offers impartial information, advice, and support for children and young people with special educational needs or disabilities (SEND) and their parents or carers.

1. For Pupils: [Young People's Autumn Newsletter](#)

This newsletter is packed with tips, advice, and contact details for support services specifically tailored for children and young people. We encourage all pupils to take a look!

2. For Parents and Carers: [Autumn Newsletter for Parents](#)

This resource offers helpful information and guidance on navigating the challenges of supporting a child, as well as crucial contacts for local support services.

Wellbeing Webinars

The **Wellbeing in Mind Team** has been offering a fantastic series of online webinars this Autumn Term, accessible to all young people, parents, and carers.

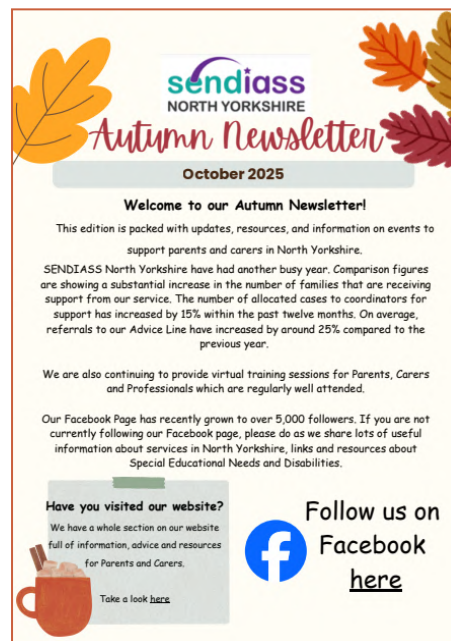
The final topics they will be covering include:

- Resilience: Building coping skills for challenges.
- Anxiety: Understanding and managing worries and stress.
- Winter Wellbeing & Low Mood: Proactive strategies for the darker months.
- Follow [@wellbeinginmind.mhst](#) on Instagram to access the joining information. Any questions, please contact teww.wimtwsa@nhs.net

Autumn Rock Climbing

Looking for something fun for the kids to do over half term? We've received this poster about climbing clubs and wanted to pass it on! This is not a school-affiliated event, so please reach out to the company directly with any questions.

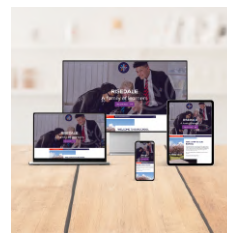
Find out more by visiting www.myexpeditionrocks.com or contact via email at info@myexpeditionrocks.com



General Reminders for Risedale School

School Website

It is recommended that all parents familiarise themselves with the school's website www.risedale.org.uk. There, you can find lots of important information such as [calendar and term dates](#), [letters to parents](#), [uniform](#), [policies](#), [exam information](#), [wellbeing](#) and our [latest news](#), to name but a few.



Uniform

At Risedale, we take great pride in our school uniform and strive to make it as affordable as possible by limiting the number of branded items we offer. Our website provides guidance on the [Uniform](#) policy, which is an integral part of our school's identity. It is mandatory for all pupils to wear the correct uniform at all times. If you have any questions or concerns about the uniform, please contact your child's form tutor as the primary point of contact.



Online Parental Engagement

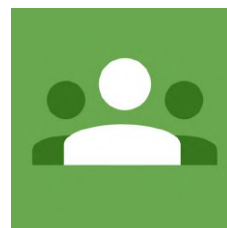
[MyChildAtSchool \(MCAS\)](#) is an online portal for parents that enables you to view your child's performance at school in real-time via the web. **Please check MCAS regularly** as this facility allows you to access your child's timetable, attendance, behaviour and reports whenever you wish to see the latest available information. Parents can access MCAS via the website or can use the MCAS App, which can be downloaded from the App/Google Play Store.



When your child joins Risedale, you will be sent details to allow you to access your account. If you have forgotten your Parent Login details, click [HERE](#).

Google Classroom Parent Alerts

Parents can receive email summaries showing their child's progress in Google Classroom. To become a 'Google Guardian', simply complete the ['Google Classroom Summary Alerts'](#) form, and our IT team will set this up for you.



Equipment and Chromebooks

Please ensure your child has everything they need for school to start the day positively and be prepared to learn.



- A pencil case containing the following:
 - a **black biro**, **red biro** and **blue biro**,
 - pencil
 - ruler
 - eraser
- Planner (replacement cost £2 if lost).
- PE kit (on timetabled day for PE).
- Reading book (KS3 only).
- Chromebook fully charged and in its protective case (Years 8-11 only).

