



Dear parents/carers and pupils,

We have had a wonderful start to being back in school full-time with all pupils. It has been so nice to see our young people meet their friends again, engage in their learning and, of course, enjoy school lunches. Our focus during these three weeks has been the wellbeing of all in the community, staff and pupils alike. Lisa Smith, our new counsellor, has started her face to face consultations and it is amazing to fill the buildings with the buzz of our Risedale Family once again.

Just a brief reminder that term ends on **Friday 26th March** and pupils return **Tuesday 13th April** ( Monday 12th April is a staff training day ): [Link to Calendar and Term Dates](#)

### Get ready for a new chapter of learning!

We are absolutely thrilled to be launching our **new name, logo and website in September** of this year!



From September 2021 Risedale Sports & Community College will be known as **Risedale School**.

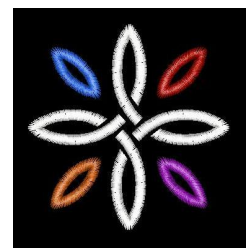
At the start of the 2019/20 academic year, a review of the school's strapline, mission and aims was undertaken by members of the student body alongside Mrs Matthewman to make them chime with the developing ethos and values of our community. The outcome of this work is a mission and set of aims that have been energised and reflect the family-orientated ethos and vision of the school.

We are '**The Risedale Family**' and together we are '**A Family of Learners**'.

**Our Mission:** The Risedale family is committed to a positive future for all through a personalised learning journey.

**Our Aims:** Celebrate success, learn from mistakes  
Build resilience, accept challenge and strive for excellence  
Shape curriculum to discover, explore and build aspiration

**Uniform:** The only change to the existing uniform will be the school badge on the blazer. All current pupils will be given a new FREE badge to iron onto their blazers over the old St. Cuthbert's cross on the pocket.



Our new Year 7 starting in September will be able to order their new blazers from our school uniform provider with the new badge already embroidered onto it.

For more information please visit our dedicated website page: [Risedale School](#)



## Uniform Expectations

We absolutely appreciate that the uniform expectations have had to be relaxed during the last term due to keeping windows open for proper ventilation. We also accept that it has been more challenging for parents/carers to replace outgrown uniform/shoes during the most recent lockdown. However, as we move into the warmer months and as the shops start to open again, staff have started to remind pupils of the expectations. There will be a big push on this after Easter especially, but staff have started to make those reminders now.



To support us with this, please encourage your child to be properly dressed in their uniform, ready for school after the holiday.

- **Shoes:** Footwear is becoming an issue and a high number of pupils do actually have their school shoes in their bags but are choosing not to wear them. Please remind them of this focus.
- **Blazers/jumpers/coats:** Blazers must be worn at all times. Plain black jumpers are allowed under blazers but hoodies are not allowed at all. Coats are still recommended as it can be cool at break and lunch time but must not be worn in place of blazers.
- **Hoodies:** Please encourage your child to leave their hoodie at home for out of school use. Hoodies are not part of the school uniform.
- **Jewellery/piercings:** Please remind your child that jewellery and piercings are not allowed.

If you are concerned about any of the above, please contact your child's tutor in the first instance.

For more information please visit our dedicated website page: [Risedale Uniform](#)





## Home Testing over the Easter holiday

It is important for pupils and staff to **keep testing through the Easter holidays** to manage the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19), as part of a regular habit of testing at home every 3-4 days (twice a week). NHS Test and Trace have supplied sufficient test kits to enable this to happen and these are being distributed to our pupils and staff this week.

Please continue reporting all test results to the [NHS](#) and the [school](#).

**NHS**  
Test and Trace

**Four easy stages of a rapid COVID-19 self-test**

 <p><b>1</b> Set-up: sanitise testing area and hands, unpack kit, read instructions</p>	 <p><b>2</b> Swab: throat then nose</p>
 <p><b>3</b> Process test: place swab in liquid in tube, squeeze liquid onto test device</p>	 <p><b>4</b> Read result: ensure test device is on a flat surface, wait and read result at 30 minutes</p>



## Testing for parents, households and bubbles twice a week

Regular rapid testing is now also available for parents, their households and support or childcare bubbles. The government is encouraging all families to participate in twice weekly testing to help stop the spread of coronavirus.



Parents and other adults in a household can access tests by:

- Ordering tests online [www.gov.uk/order-school-household-tests](https://www.gov.uk/order-school-household-tests).
- Getting an assisted test at work, if it is available.
- Attending a test site to get tested (where you will be able to see how to take the test) or pick up tests to do at home.

To find out more information from the Government on household testing visit: [GOV.UK - Households/bubbles of pupils/staff of schools/colleges: Get rapid lateral flow tests](https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/households-bubbles-of-pupils-staff-of-schools-colleges-get-rapid-lateral-flow-tests)

Local information from North Yorkshire's Director of Public Health, Louise Wallace, can be found here: [Twice-Weekly Home Testing for COVID-19](#). This letter also provides a list of locations where home test kits can be collected in the North Yorkshire area.

## National Tutoring Programme

After Easter we start our new 1 to 1 and small group online tutoring programme. We are very excited to be joining up with MyTutor, a well-established national provider to support over 50 of our Year 10 pupils.

**MyTutor** Parents of those pupils will be contacted this week and the tutoring programme begins in the week commencing 19th April.

The aim of the programme is to ensure that all pupils make the progress they need and no pupil is left behind. This is only the first step of our provision to support pupils who have struggled during lockdown. Keep an eye open for more announcements in the summer term.

## Y10 and 11 - please return borrowed Chromebooks

If your child borrowed a Chromebook from school during lockdown please let them know that they will have to return this device after the Easter holiday. It is essential that these Chromebooks are returned as they are the devices that will need to be used for the Y10 MyTutor programme (see above).



As previously mentioned, we are purchasing more devices and by September 2021 every child should have their own Chromebook, but for now we do need to share the devices we have available. Thank you for your understanding as we secure more funding so every child can benefit from the Chromebook project.



## Parent/Carer Drop-in Sessions with our School Counsellor



Hi, I'm Lisa, the new School Counsellor. My job is to support our pupils here at Risedale, and if possible, to also support you as parents and carers with any concerns you may have about your child's general mental health and wellbeing. I would ideally like to offer this service via a face-to-face drop-in session, but unfortunately due to COVID this isn't currently possible. So for now, as an alternative, I would like to offer telephone appointments until we can meet in person.

Appointments can be booked in advance by emailing me directly at [smith.l@risedale.org.uk](mailto:smith.l@risedale.org.uk) or by ringing the school and leaving your contact details. Each appointment will last half an hour and the available dates/times are shown below:

- **Dates:** Wed 21st April, Wed 12th May, Wed 23rd June and Wed 7th July.
- **Times:** 09:00 - 09:30, 09:45 - 10:15, 10:30 - 11:00 and 11:15 - 11:45.

These sessions are to offer you ideas for supporting your child with regard to low level issues. If you have more urgent concerns please contact school to discuss with your child's Head of Year: Years 7-9 Mrs Wright [wright.s@risedale.org.uk](mailto:wright.s@risedale.org.uk), Years 10 & 11 Ms Benson [benson.a@risedale.org.uk](mailto:benson.a@risedale.org.uk).

I am also hoping to attend the parent coffee mornings held in school once COVID restrictions are lifted so there will be an opportunity to speak with me then too.

I look forward to eventually being able to meet.

**Lisa Smith - School Counsellor**

## Free School Meal (FSM) provision over the Easter holiday



All schools will close as usual for the 2 week Easter holiday and during this period families who would normally receive Free School Meals will be issued with Tesco gift cards, as they were during the February half-term. Risedale's Family Support Advisor, Mr Morley, will coordinate distribution so if you have any questions please contact him directly [morley.g@risedale.org.uk](mailto:morley.g@risedale.org.uk)

## Updated guidance for keeping children safe online:

The Government has updated its guidance for parents and carers to keep children safe online. The measures announced over recent weeks to tackle coronavirus (COVID-19), although essential, have disrupted people's day-to-day lives. As a result of these necessary measures, almost all of us are likely to be spending more time online, including children. This guidance contains resources for parents and carers to help keep their children safe online: [Guidance COVID-19: support for parents and carers to keep children safe online](#)

## Risedale achieves 'Certified School Status' for Online Safety



We are proud to announce that Risedale has successfully achieved 'Certified School Status' demonstrating our whole school community commitment to safeguarding our young people and keeping them safe online.

Parents and carers can access a FREE and interactive online workshop by registering here: [Risedale NOS Parent Enrolment](#)

Once you have registered, you will be able to access the 'Online Safety for Parents and Carers' course and National Online Safety's Resources (which includes a wide range of online platform guides on the latest social media channels and games). This aims to help empower parents with the knowledge to protect their children from the dangers of the internet. If you have any questions, or trouble accessing the course, please email [support@nationalonlinesafety.com](mailto:support@nationalonlinesafety.com)



Click the link to view a helpful guide for parents/carers about how to access the Learning Hub: [NOS Online Safety Parents User Guide](#)

## University of Sussex Online research



**US**  
UNIVERSITY OF SUSSEX

# Want to take part in science? Do something new?

★ All you need is an iPad & 20 minutes! ★

We are researchers at the University of Sussex, looking for boys aged 11-16 to help us find out whether your ability to see colours affects how happy you are and how you feel about school.

Taking part involves doing some questionnaires & playing a fun colour game.

To start, visit: <https://bit.ly/2Lde9eW>

Any problems? ✉ [teresa.tang@sussex.ac.uk](mailto:teresa.tang@sussex.ac.uk)

Study ethically approved by University of Sussex SCITEC (REF: ER/TT2833/3)

or scan QR code





## Service Parents Survey - Can you help Gemma?

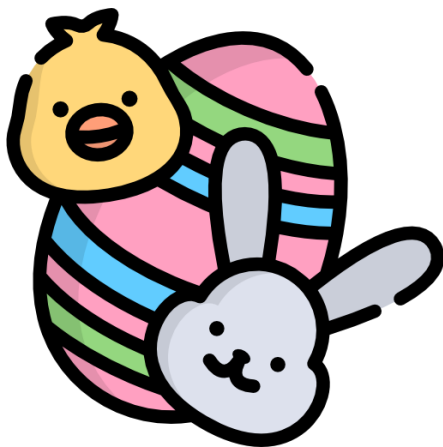
Hello my name is Gemma and I am completing my PhD studies at the University of Leeds. My research focuses on the challenges and barriers experienced by Service Parents, and other families who have experienced mobility and have needed to enrol their child(ren) in a new school. Additionally, my research will investigate how this experience impacts upon parents whose children are identified with a Special Educational Need or Disability. I am asking parents who fit the criteria to complete a 10-minute survey.



To take part in this survey you must either be a parent from the Armed Forces community, or a parent who has experienced mobility and has had to enrol their child(ren) in a new school.

If you would like to take part, please follow the link to my survey. If you require any additional information or have any questions you can contact me at [ss13glc@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:ss13glc@leeds.ac.uk)

**Survey link:** <https://leeds.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/schools-survey-for-parents-2>



Have a fantastic Easter Holiday and a well deserved break!

We look forward to welcoming our pupils back on Tuesday 13th April.

Best wishes from all The Risedale Family.

## Keep in Touch - Keep Safe - Keep Learning

