



Dear parents/carers and pupils,

As we near the half-term holiday we would like to share some key messages for the next half-term and beyond. Firstly, thank you so much for your continued support through this challenging time. The recent partial lifting of certain lockdown measures has made us all feel a growing sense of some movement back to normality. However, we do still need to remind all families that **pupils require a face mask as part of their everyday equipment. If your child travels by bus, masks are still required.** Enjoy the half-term holiday and please keep in touch with any concerns, good news or upcoming events in the community.

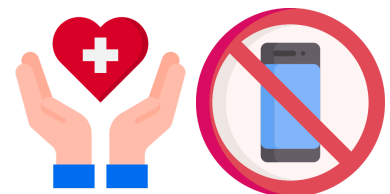


## Keeping in touch - The Risedale Family

**Communication with school:** Everyone within our Risedale family, be they pupils/staff/parents/carers/governors/local community, want the very best for our young people. In the first instance, this is always best done by speaking to the school directly. Form tutors are parents' first port of call for any questions they may have about a child in school, and this can be passed on to our year team managers or senior leadership team as appropriate.



**Medical issues / pupils contacting home:** Any pupil wishing to contact their parent/carer during the school day must ask the office staff to call on their behalf and likewise we ask parents to ring the office if they wish to contact their child. This ensures that the school is kept informed and able to help pupils/parents in need without disrupting teaching. Pupils are not permitted to use mobile phones in school unless directed by the teacher as a learning tool in the classroom.



**Concerns and complaints:** Most concerns arise because of misunderstandings or miscommunication. These are usually very easy to solve, and a simple and direct conversation will normally put things right. However, there may be an occasion, although rare, where issues cannot be resolved and in those instances parents/carers/community are asked to complete a formal complaint form so we can investigate. Further information on how to do this can be found on the school's website [here](#).



**Behaviour expectations and sanctions:** Our positive behaviour policy is an important aspect of what it means to be part of The Risedale Family. Our staff will never challenge a child's behaviour inappropriately. When the school does challenge the behaviour of our children, it is to make sure that they learn from that mistake and grow into productive young adults. Our sanctions are firm but fair. We value your support in this endeavour. Risedale School will





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always inform parents of a detention and the reason for it. Parental support with these sanctions is an important way of working with a young person to move their learning and behaviour in the right direction.

**Respect:** Staff at Risedale, as well as all of our children, have a right to come to work and do their job safely and with respect. They must be allowed to do so without any risk to their personal safety or integrity. Parents must always treat our staff with the respect they themselves expect from us. Respect is always given and expected.



## Uniform expectations

We understand that sourcing new uniform has been challenging during lockdown and, as a school, we have been very supportive of all families as they navigate through buying items when shops have been closed. We would, however, like to take this opportunity to highlight some reminders about uniform expectations for September.



- **Blazer:** A black blazer with patch pockets embroidered with the school badge. Please note, any pupils joining Risedale after May 2021 will automatically be sold the new blazer with the new Risedale School badge embroidered on the pocket. This will enable us to phase out the old St. Cuthbert's cross badge. All pupils will be given a new FREE badge to iron onto their blazers over the old St. Cuthbert's cross on the pocket. Badges will be issued before the Summer Holiday so pupils are ready for September 2021.
- **Tie:** A House tie – a clip on. Pupils wear a tie in their specific house colour generating a strong sense of identity and belonging (**Attenborough, Pankhurst, Seacole, Turing**). Replacement ties are available to purchase either via ParentPay or from the school reception by bringing £5.50 cash into school.
- **Shirt:** Formal white shirt or fitted blouse (worn tucked in) with neck button fastening for the tie.
- **Skirts:** Plain black, knee length. ( **No stretch/t-shirt material allowed** )
- **or Trousers:** Plain black, long. ( **No denim material, no leggings, no jeggings, no skinny-leg trousers** )
- **Jumper:** An optional plain black crew or V-neck jumper may be worn. ( **No hoodies, no jumpers with large logos and no sports tops** )
- **Shoes:** Plain black dress shoes or boots only.
- Black socks or black/neutral coloured tights.




- Belts must be black with a small plain buckle.
- **Face covering / mask:** All pupils must bring a face covering to school every day and be prepared to wear one as/when required.

The school has the right to respond to current styles of fashion in order to maintain consistency and standards of uniform. Failure to comply with uniform regulations will result in isolation until the issue is resolved. Please be careful about accepting what supermarkets offer in their 'school uniform section'; these clothes often do not comply with school uniform regulations. If you are unsure, please contact the school to discuss.

## Equipment

Being equipped for the school day is an important part of being prepared not only for learning, but for life. Your child will need a pencil case containing the following:

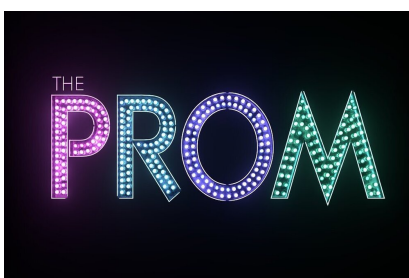
- Black pen
- Red pen
- Blue pen
- Pencil
- Ruler
- Eraser

<b><u>P</u></b>	Write in <b><u>PEN</u></b> : black for writing, red for underlining and blue for <b><u>DIRT</u></b>	 <p>Always be <b><u>PROUD</u></b> of your work</p>
<b><u>R</u></b>	Use a <b><u>RULER</u></b> for all tables, grids and graphs	
<b><u>O</u></b>	<b><u>OOPS!</u></b> Draw a single line with a ruler through <b><u>m</u></b> istakes	
<b><u>U</u></b>	<b><u>UNDERLINE</u></b> titles etc. with a red pen and a ruler	
<b><u>D</u></b>	Only use a pencil to <b><u>DRAW</u></b> with	

In addition to this your child will need to make sure they have their reading book and their Chromebook ( charged and in its case ). From September 2021 all Risedale pupils will be issued with a Chromebook.

## Year 11 information

Year 11 pupils are very busy at the moment, working with their teachers on producing a portfolio of evidence to submit for their GCSEs. We are very proud of their resilience under what have been some very challenging circumstances. **The final date for submission of grades is Friday 18th June and this will be the leaving date for the year group.** During the following week the pupils will be provided with some meaningful resources and activities to support them in their next steps. These resources will be provided via Google Classroom.



## Year 11 Prom

Link to [Year 11 Prom and Leavers' Hoodies 2021](#) letter sent 27th April. Any questions please contact Ms Benson [benison.a@risedale.org.uk](mailto:benison.a@risedale.org.uk)





## Proposed school day timings for September 2021 - parent consultation

As part of our ongoing pledge to improve our provision and with some of the aspects of the COVID measures having been positive for learning and safety, we have reflected and we propose the following timings for the school day in September. We would very much appreciate any feedback you may have. The only change for parents' routine is that we will finish 5 minutes later than in pre-COVID times. This is to allow for 5 minute change-over slots between lessons.



The Risedale School teaching day starts promptly at 08:30 with all pupils in their form classroom to receive the daily briefing and welfare check by their form tutors. Pupils must be lined up in their correct yard space by 08:25 each morning where their form tutor will greet them and walk them into the school. Pupils must not arrive in the school yard prior to 08:15 each day.

The school day will end for all pupils at 15:00, unless they are attending interventions or after school clubs. The few pupils who may have received a detention that day will not leave school until 15:35.

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
All pupils in all year groups to be lined up and are then taken to their form classrooms				
Registration and daily welfare check / tutor support starts in their form classroom				
Pupils end registration and walk to next yard space to be picked up by their P1 subject teacher				
Period 1				
Pupils end Period 1 and walk to next yard space to be picked up by their P2 subject teacher				
Period 2				
Morning break, all pupils to use the yard where their period 3 lesson is situated				
Period 3				
Pupils end Period 3 and walk to next yard space for P4 subject (Y10/Y11 to canteen)				
Period 4A	Period 4		Year 10 and 11 lunch	
Year 7 lunch			Period 4	
Period 4B	Year 8 and 9 lunch			
Pupils end Period 4 or lunch and go to yard space to be picked up by their P5 subject teacher				
Period 5				
Main school day ends for all pupils who are escorted to their gate by their P5 teacher				
Interventions, school clubs and detentions begin				

We have maintained 5 minute change-overs, increased breaktime and retained a staggered lunchtime, all aspects of our COVID systems that have been effective throughout the last year.



## The importance of continued testing and reporting in schools



Testing continues to play a crucial role, in and out of classrooms, in our fight against COVID-19. **Pupils and staff should continue to test themselves and report results twice weekly, 3-4 days apart.**

Reporting test results should be done straight away and can be done simply and quickly online from mobiles or by calling the phone number in your test kit's instructions. Reporting not only supports contact tracing in the event of a positive case but also assists in understanding local and national rates of infection:

- Each test result must be reported using the NHS Test & Trace self-report website: [Report a COVID-19 rapid lateral flow test result](#).
- You also need to report to the school by completing the following form: [Home Test Result Form - PUPILS](#)

**You must report all positive test results to school:** As your child will be absent from school, you must report this in the normal way, contacting the school as soon as possible, making it very clear that this is because of a positive LFD test result. The school will then take appropriate measures to identify any close contacts for bubble management and contact tracing.

For further information on the importance of testing and reporting please see the following Government blog [Why reporting your test result is as important as taking a test](#).

## Contact tracing over May half-term holiday

Where pupils or staff test positive for COVID-19 during half-term, having developed symptoms **more than** 2 days since being in school, then staff, young people, parents/carers should follow the contact tracing instructions provided by NHS Test and Trace. However, where pupils or staff test positive having developed symptoms **within** 2 days of being in school, you are asked to assist in identifying close contacts and advising self-isolation, as the individual may have been infectious whilst in school. Please notify the school by emailing [COVID@risedale.org.uk](mailto:COVID@risedale.org.uk).



For further information and updates regarding COVID-19 please visit our dedicated website page: [Risedale COVID-19 page](#)

## A reminder about 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 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 these 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**

## Headteacher's Award for Year 11 Pupils

On Monday 17th May Jaedon Dickson (Seacole) and Corey Hurst (Attenborough) were presented with the Headteacher's Award. Both pupils received a trophy, £5 gift voucher and 20 Epraise points for their respective Houses 🧡💙.

The pupils received their awards for citizenship after they found a lost mobile phone on their way home and helped to return it to the owner who was later found out to be a parent from Carnagill Community Primary School.



Risedale Headteacher Mr Scott said: ***"I'm really proud of both Jaedon and Corey. It was lovely to hear that two of our pupils had gone the extra mile and ensured that the phone was returned to its owner. It's a pleasure to acknowledge their act of kindness and community spirit."***



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Jaedon and Corey were really pleased with their Headteacher's Award and both remarked that they were just happy to help. #TeamRisedale.

Are you one of Risedale's Unsung Heroes? Is your child an Unsung Hero? Then please let us know your good news by sending stories/photos/videos to [news@risedale.org.uk](mailto:news@risedale.org.uk).

## Lost Property

Has your child lost anything? If so, please encourage them to visit reception to see if they have misplaced any items of school equipment or uniform etc.

We currently have a collection of coats, PE kits, shoes, lunch boxes and water bottles - all unclaimed and sadly unnamed.

Also, if you are aware that your child is missing something then please give the school office a ring so we can see if we have anything that fits the description - 01748 833501.

**Many thanks, the Risedale Admin Team**



**Have a fantastic half-term holiday and a well deserved break!**

**We look forward to welcoming our pupils back on Monday 7th June.**

**Best wishes from all The Risedale Family.**

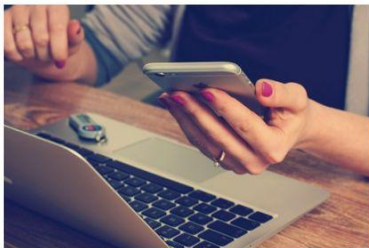
**Keep in Touch - Keep Safe - Keep Learning**







Take a moment and think.... Are you doing enough to protect your child online? Here are the thoughts of a parent and how they monitor their child's internet access, social media interactions and mobile phone usage.



**“***This phone belongs to my 14 year old daughter. It's charging on my kitchen counter. At 9pm, every single night, her phone shuts itself down and she brings it here.*

**Why? It's how I keep her safe.**

*That phone is free of social media. She has an app that allows her to chat with a handful of friends and family. I know every person she talks to and I check her phone and messages regularly.*

**Why? It's how I'm keeping her safe.**

*My nearly 12 year old son asked me two days ago if I would connect his PS4 to the internet so he could play with friends outside of the house. I said no.*

*He had a persuasive argument, it was filled with many things I agree with him about. Unfortunately, the good does not outweigh the bad. So, I stuck with the original "no."*

**Why? It's how I am keeping him safe.**

*These devices, left unchecked, will allow people into our homes at any hour of any day. There is no escape. And I've created this home to be an escape.*

*It's a safe place for my children. No matter what happens out in the world, I want this house to be their respite, their safe haven, their fortress.*

*Opening the door to unrestricted internet access allows anyone to enter our home at any time. I'm locking that door.*

*When it comes to internet access here there is zero privacy. ZERO.*

*I've listened to arguments about privacy and I've not heard a single one that made me rethink the safety of my children.*



*It's not only their physical safety we are called to guard! We must guard their hearts, their eyes, and their ears until they can make their own rational decisions.*

*I'm doubling down rather than easing up on this issue. Why? Because I've read countless stories of parents who wish they could undo what's been done.*

*There are children - CHILDREN - sending pics, videos and other sexual content of themselves to "friends" online.*

*And it's not happening out there somewhere- it's happening in good, solid family homes. It's happening right under our noses.*

*The fallout of this crisis is yet to be seen. Our boys are exposed to sexual content and pornography years earlier than their fathers and the consequences are immeasurable.*

*Parents, educate yourselves on the long term damage of early pornography exposure. I know the old adages bring comfort "boys will be boys." But I call bull. We are excusing life altering behaviour by assuming that it's "just what boys do." No longer is it magazine photos of girls they will never meet- it's nude pics of girls in their schools.*

*This is not fear mongering or helicopter parenting, it's simply common sense.*

*Check the phones. Monitor their online presence. If you allow social media make sure you're one of their most engaged followers.*

*They probably won't like that. You'll get some pushback. Parent them anyway.*

*I tell my children all the time "I'm not here to make friends. It's okay with me if this makes you unhappy."*

**Why? It's how I'm keeping them safe."**

