

**ROSE HILL SCHOOL**

ROYAL TUNBRIDGE WELLS



**LATER YEARS  
INFORMATION  
HANDBOOK**

**2016 / 17**

## Welcome to the Later Years in the Pre-Prep

We are pleased to welcome your child to his/her next stage of learning at Rose Hill. Rose Hill has traditionally chosen the term 'Later Years' meaning Years 1 and 2, which is also known nationally as Key Stage 1.

We see the progression of children in the Pre-Prep as a smooth and easy transfer through the first four years of schooling. Indeed your child's early skills and formative learning in the Foundation Stage will be built upon through Years 1 and 2. This transition is made easier as the children simply move down the corridor!

The personal development of all pupils remains an important aim and this is achieved through continuous learning opportunities. Activities, both in and beyond the classroom, are a mixture of teacher led tasks and guided and independent exploration.

This booklet sets out to give you routine guidance and information about Years 1 and 2 and we do hope it is useful.

Finally, I would like to mention that we are always happy to discuss queries or answer any questions you may have. Please do feel free to contact us.

Caroline Long  
Head of Pre-Prep



## LATER YEARS STAFF



Mrs Caroline Long BEd

Head of Pre-Prep  
2L Class Teacher



Mrs Sue Allington (CCPR) Level 2 Tutor

2L Class Teacher & Teaching Assistant



Mrs Fiona Wood  
Level 3 Award in Supporting Teaching & Learning in Schools

2L Teaching Assistant



Mrs Jane Morgan BEd Dip SEN

2M Class Teacher



Mrs Sarah Wildey NNEB Diploma

2M Teaching Assistant



Mrs Imogen Scarbrough BEd

1S Class Teacher



Mrs Tina Reed NVQ2

1S Teaching Assistant



Mrs D Fasey NVO4

1S Teaching Assistant



Mrs Alison Parker BA (Hons) PGCE

1P Class Teacher



Mrs Helen Finch RGN

1P Teaching Assistant



Mrs Charlie Barnes BSc (Hons) PGCE

Learning Skills Teacher



Mrs Juliet Makinson RGN

School Nurse



Mrs Liz Saw

Playtime/Lunchtime Supervisor



Mrs Philippa Sykes

Playtime/Lunchtime Supervisor

## KEY STAGE 1 CURRICULUM



Morning teaching and learning in Years 1 & 2 primarily focuses on the important subjects of Literacy (English) and Numeracy (Maths). The National Curriculum is followed and planning is supported by the Read Write Inc. scheme in Literacy and the Abacus scheme in Numeracy.

The other curriculum areas including Science, History, Geography, RE, PSHE and Art & Design are taught within termly themes through a more holistic approach. This style of learning is recognised as the Creative Curriculum, enabling subjects to be linked by a common idea. On occasions where it is not possible to integrate all areas of the curriculum within a theme, a subject such as RE, will be taught as a discrete subject.

The children continue to benefit from expert teaching, delivered by specialist subject teachers, in French, Music, Computing and PE.

## Classes and Groupings



The Class groups are reshuffled for the start of Key Stage 1 and they remain fixed until the end of Year 2. We do teach many subjects in class groups. However, we have found great benefit from teaching Literacy and Numeracy in ability groups and groupings remain flexible to allow for different rates of progress. We are very aware that at this early age each child's development is unique and we aim to meet each individual's needs in ability groups.

## Assessments

Throughout your child's time at Rose Hill he/she will be assessed on a regular basis to monitor his/her progress. In the Later Years these assessments are kept very low key and are quite routine for the children.



## Learning Skills

All aspects of each child's progress are carefully monitored, including academic, social and emotional development. To achieve this, the teaching staff liaise very closely with Mrs Makinson and we also have access to a school counsellor.

The Learning Skills team at Rose Hill, led by Mrs Anja Tschurtschentaler and supported by Mrs Charlie Barnes in Years 1 and 2, offers extra opportunities to ensure that every child fulfils his/her potential and continues to make further steps in his/her learning. Small group support is offered to some children and this is reviewed regularly.

Golden Club and Sensory Circuits are offered to some children and support social communication skills and physical and emotional development.

Communication between teachers and parents creates strong home/school links and ensures that every parent is kept very well informed about their child's development and progress.

## Specialist lessons

French, Computing, Music and PE are taught by specialist teachers.

Year 1

French x 1 lesson  
(Mrs Powell)

Computing x 1 lesson  
(Mr Beaton)

Music x 1 lesson  
(Mr Everist)

PE x 1 lesson  
(Mr Hinchliffe)

Year 2

French x 2 lessons  
(Mrs Powell)

Computing x 1 lesson  
(Mr Izzard – 2L & Mr Beaton – 2M)

Music x 1 lesson  
(Mr Everist)

PE x 2 lessons  
(Mr Hinchliffe)

Please note that 2L and 2M have a PE lesson starting at 8.30am on a Tuesday or Wednesday morning respectively. The classroom doors are open at 8.20am, allowing 10 minutes for changing before the lesson begins. It is really essential that your child is in class promptly to maximise the PE teaching time.

## Woodland Activities

The Year 2 curriculum now offers a programme of outdoor learning in Hurst Wood. Each class spends 1 ½ hours on alternate Tuesdays, learning new skills in this outdoor environment.



We have fully waterproof clothing for everyone. However, we do request the children have wellies in school please.

The children will learn to respect and care for their natural world, will learn new skills including whittling wood and building shelters and will enjoy a range of physical and co-operative challenges too.



## Individual Music Lessons

During Years 1 and 2 some children display an interest or desire to begin learning a musical instrument. A number of factors need to be considered by parents including your child's level of concentration, his/her commitment to regular practice at home and the awareness by parents that your child will be withdrawn from class lessons (including Literacy and Numeracy) for instrumental lessons.

If you feel your child is ready to take lessons at school please contact Mr Everist with a preliminary request. He will seek direct advice from your child's class teacher and Mrs Long. Occasionally, it is decided to defer the request until a child is ready for the commitment.

If you are thinking about this opportunity for your child, you may like to speak to your child's class teacher to gauge your child's readiness. Once agreement for starting lessons has been reached your child will be placed on a waiting list until a space with a peripatetic teacher becomes available.

## Visits and Visitors

Classroom learning is greatly enhanced by trips and by visitors who come in to school to talk to the children.

Previous visits and visitors have included the following and may be arranged again this year:

Years 1 & 2 Mrs Makinson  
(Year 1 – Health and Hygiene)  
(Year 2 -Medicines)

Year 1 'Perform Theatre Company'

Years 1 & 2 Mrs Bellinger and Mrs Bennett  
International Dance Day

Year 2 Tonbridge Castle

Year 2 Trinity Theatre

Year 2 Tunbridge Wells Mosque

Year 2 St Paul's Cathedral

Year 2 Great Fire of London – visiting drama group

Year 2 Bedgebury Pinetum

Year 2 Kidenza – orchestral performance

Year 1 St John's Church

Year 1 Maidstone Museum

Year 1 Drusilla's Park





## DAILY ROUTINE

8.25am	Doors open
8.35-10.15am	Class time
10.15 – 10.45am	Play time
10.45am – 12.00	Class time
12.00-1.10pm	Lunch time
1.10-3.30pm	Class time
3.30pm	Year 1 day finishes
3.45pm	Year 2 day finishes



### Octagon Supervision

8.00 - 8.25am	This facility is available for the children of working parents. Please complete a Morning Supervision Form and return it to Mrs Long.
3.30 - 4.15pm	This is for children who have older siblings and whose parents will be coming to a later pick up. We do request collection by 4.15pm at the latest. If, however, due to unforeseen circumstances you will be later than this, please inform the School Office as soon as possible.
4.15 - 5.15pm	After School Care. Please register your child by using the forms available in the 'Online Forms' area on the school website.

### Car parking and car park safety

As you know, car parking at the beginning and end of the day can be tricky. It is really helpful if you vacate the car park as quickly as possible, to leave spaces for parents using the car park at later times.

Car park safety remains a real concern. We request the following guidelines are followed. Your child will be reminded of these too.

- After dismissal your child waits sensibly beside an adult.
- Children may not sit on the fences/gates or climb on the walls or play houses.
- The Pre-Prep 'Quiet Area' may be used by parents and children who wish to wait calmly and safely for older siblings. Climbing on the trees and benches is not permitted.
- Children should be discouraged from playing running/chasing games by the Pre-Prep or Sports Hall.
- Parents and children should exit the area following the path in front of the Sports Hall. If you have parked on the side opposite the Sports Hall, please use the crossing.
- Parents and children should not walk through the middle of the car park, unless using the crossing.

These guidelines are very specific and must be followed. Tragic reminders of poor school car park safety are sadly common and we are keen to be safety conscious.

After school collection

If your child is going to be collected by another adult, please inform your child's Class Teacher in the morning. All classes have a board or sheet to sign, giving consent for another adult to pick up. If you have a regular arrangement with another adult, it will be helpful for you to sign the appropriate form at the start of the year giving long term, regular consent.

Late changes can be conveyed through the Office, but we request this is not routine.

Pre-Prep After School Clubs

A variety of clubs are offered at school.

Year 1			
Monday	Ballet	3.30 – 4.15pm	Mrs Bennett
Thursday	Musical Theatre / Tap	2.45 – 3.15pm	Mrs Bennett
Year 2			
Tuesday	Football (Autumn Term)	4.00 – 4.45pm	Mr Hinchliffe & Mr Scott
	Unihoc (Spring Term)	---“---	---“---
	Cricket (Summer Term)	---“---	---“---
	Rainbows	4.15 – 5.15pm	Mrs Scarbrough & Mrs Allington
Wednesday	Ballet	4.00 – 4.45pm	Mrs Bennett
	Musical Theatre / Tap	4.45 – 5.30pm	---“---
	Swimming (Summer Term)	4.00 – 4.45pm	TBC
Friday	Ball Skills	4.00 – 4.45pm	Mrs Allington & Mr Scott

Club provision does change throughout the year and according to staffing. We ask parents to consider your child's needs following a long full day at school.

Again, we reserve the right to reconsider a child's attendance if he/she is finding the school day is long enough or if behaviour wavers.



Characters' Day

## Homework

### Year 2

Monday	Reading
Tuesday	Spelling (for spell check on Friday)
Wednesday	Reading
Thursday	Literacy activity (to be completed for Monday)
Friday	Reading & Numeracy (sometimes)

### Year 1

Monday	Reading & Sound Work (for spell check on Friday)
Tuesday	
Wednesday	Reading & Literacy or Topic
Thursday	
Friday	Reading & Numeracy



Homework is most productive if supported by parents. Tasks may support class teaching and are used as consolidation/reinforcement activities.

In Year 2 numerical tasks over the weekend often pre-empt the concept which will take place in the forthcoming week. In Year 1, they support work already covered. This homework could involve games or practical challenges.

Listed below are a few suggestions which will help to make homework profitable:

- Choose a good time – for you and your child. Reading in the car on the way to school, or being unable to offer support as you are preparing tea, should be avoided!
- We will be happy to receive homework at a later time, occasionally, if your child is too weary to complete it. A brief note from you will be helpful.
- Thursday literacy homework can be saved for the weekend if this suits your family better.
- If you decide not to complete the reading homework – please return the book/record anyway – with a short message of explanation – as the book will be needed in school.
- Homework should always be completed in pencil.
- Children are awarded stars for their homework. Additional stars are given for presentation and extra recording.
- We greatly appreciate feedback about a task. If your child has found a task straightforward, we are happy for you to extend the activity.
- We highly recommend use of practical apparatus, for example, counters, beads, coins etc, to support a task.
- Kindly avoid showing your child how to spell words in Literacy homework. Instead, encourage him/her to sound out the word. If it is a tricky “red” word, for example, ‘friend’, remember that a spelling of ‘frend’ is fantastic and does not need correcting.
- Encourage your child to develop their own ideas rather than relying on parental input.

## Literacy and Numeracy Parent Meetings

We have arranged two Parent Information Evenings this term on:

Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> September 2016	7.00pm	Literacy (including handwriting)
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> October 2016	7.00pm	Numeracy

Further guidance about homework will be offered then.

## Personal Development

As your child moves through Years 1 and 2 independence and responsibility are being continuously strengthened.

Again the home/school partnership is important for supporting your child's social progress,

Here are a few tips for home which reinforce our expectations at school:

- Help to lay and clear the table (Year 2 children help to clear and wipe the lunch tables).
- Practise folding clothes/uniform – particularly learning to 'pair up' socks!
- Pack PE Bag at the weekend. It is useful to have a list so every item is included.
- Encourage your child to remember his/her own fruit snack, book bag, homework, library book etc.
- Practise tying and untying ties independently.

We are constantly encouraging our children to think for themselves. This process is made easier for your child if it is expected at home too.

Throughout Year 2, the children are gradually prepared for moving to Prep School. The children attend class assemblies, enjoy 'Buddy reading' sessions with Year 3 in the Summer Term and spend a transition morning in the Prep School with the Year 3 teachers.

We also encourage the children to say 'farewell' to parents/carers at the Reception playground in the Summer Term. This encourages them to walk to class independently and pass on messages, in readiness for the expectations in Year 3.



## Birthdays

Your child's birthday is a special day and we traditionally celebrate it in class with candles on our Pre-Prep 'cake'. We are very happy for parents to provide individual cup-cakes or biscuits for the class to eat at playtime. May we request that large cakes, which require cutting, are avoided. Also, please bear in mind dietary needs or food allergies of the children in your child's class and the fact that we aim to be a nut free school.

## Book-bags

Please remember your **child's book-bag** is essential for carrying home a reading book, reading record, library book and homework carefully. Occasionally, letters and work from school are sent home in the book-bag. Please encourage your child to empty the book-bag daily. This year we will again ensure your child has a key-ring name tag in his/her appropriate House colour. Personal key-rings are no longer permitted.

Kindly remember that personal correspondence relating to birthday party invitations and thank you letters must be passed by parents or by e-mail. The school book-bag is for use for School based correspondence only.

## Snacks

This routine is now well established and each class has a fruit box/basket for snacks to be stored.

We talk to the children about making healthy snack choices and recognising the difference between natural and processed products, for example fresh fruit rather than 'Fruit Winders'.

*Healthy snack suggestions:* breadsticks, rice cakes, crackers, a savoury sandwich, Babybel or cubed cheese, fruit (fresh or dried), chopped raw vegetables.

Children eat their snack outside by the astro-turf. Seats and picnic tables are available but not all children choose to sit down at this time. **Eating 'tools' eg forks must be avoided** please and snack boxes should be small and clearly named. Boxes must also be airtight to help keep book-bags clean.

## Drinks

The children have personal water bottles which are refilled as necessary and are washed in the dishwasher. Children are able to drink from their bottles when they are thirsty.

## Uniform

All items of uniform and kit (including Rainbow uniform) must be labelled with iron-on, adhesive or sewn-in labels (particularly socks and gloves!). Trainers, shoes, plimsolls and wellies should be clearly named using labels or permanent marker pen please. All clothing will be checked at the beginning of the year and regularly thereafter. Parents will be notified if labels are missing.

## Kit

We have a small supply of spare kit to lend if a child discovers an item missing from his/her PE bag. Kindly return the 'loaned' item clean to your child's class teacher.



## HOW DO I MAKE CONTACT?

Class Teacher                      Speak directly to your child's teacher after school or write a note.

Head of Pre-Prep                  Mrs Caroline Long  
[caroline.long@rosehillschool.co.uk](mailto:caroline.long@rosehillschool.co.uk)

Headmaster                         Mr David Westcombe  
[headmaster@rosehillschool.co.uk](mailto:headmaster@rosehillschool.co.uk)

## GENERAL ENQUIRIES

School Office                        Tel: 01892 525591  
Fax 01892 533312  
[office@rosehillschool.co.uk](mailto:office@rosehillschool.co.uk)

**Headmaster's Secretary**       Mrs Ann Green  
[ann.green@rosehillschool.co.uk](mailto:ann.green@rosehillschool.co.uk)

School Secretary                  Mrs Kathryn Clark  
[kathryn.clark@rosehillschool.co.uk](mailto:kathryn.clark@rosehillschool.co.uk)

Rose Hill Parents' Association may be contacted via School Office or PA Post Box.

Please remember that although all classrooms have laptops, these are used for teaching and learning and Pre-Prep staff do not pick-up e-mail messages immediately.

All messages which require immediate attention should be conveyed via the school office.