



ROWHILL SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

September 2017 – NO. 73

ROWHILL SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT

Developing the responsible citizen for tomorrow by raising self-esteem and independence through education and care.

Dear Parents, Carers, Governors, Friends and Pupils,

Firstly I would like to introduce myself as the new Head of Rowhill School. Having only been in post a few days I already realise that it is a great school with a strong staff team and an ethos which fits the individual needs of the students. As a result I have had a great welcome from them and this will get stronger as we build positive relationships.

Having been a Head in quite a few schools, including one similar to Rowhill, I have a view about the importance of close collaboration, co-operation and communication with parents, carers, agencies and support networks. I believe in problem solving and open and honest dialogue without blaming people when things go wrong. We have to be flexible, creative and find new solutions to allow the students to develop and progress.

I would be more than happy to talk and meet parents/carers to explain the direction in which I believe the school should be moving. However, any changes will be small and based on improving outcomes for everyone.

Attached to this newsletter is data and information that clearly demonstrates the existing progress being made with our improving exam results. Attendance has now risen to 91% and behaviour data shows continued improvement. These improvements are based on improved provision, interventions and strategies which help to develop student self-esteem.

We are fortunate to have a reasonably new school building but this may need improvements and modifications as we continue to be oversubscribed. One of the biggest issues we feel is space for transport, parking and site access, and we are going to look for a better solution to ensure safety for everyone. If you do come onto site, especially at busy times such as the start and finish of the school day please take extra care.

Additionally as numbers grow so does our provision and this puts pressure on space and circulation. Over a short period of time we have started to develop a 6th form, which offers a range of vocational and therapeutic provisions with specialist outreach services. All of these services provide outstanding opportunities for the students. With all the offsite activities this makes for a busy school environment.

I will start to get the targets in place to ensure the school moves from strength to strength and I will continue to keep you informed. I am very positive about the next few years and the ability of the school and its students, friends and families to continue to inspire and achieve great outcomes for all.

Yours sincerely

**N. Rees-Davies
Head Teacher**

WE NOW HAVE AN E-MAIL ADDRESS FOR OUR GOVERNORS SHOULD PARENTS/CARERS WISH TO CONTACT THEM.
governors@rowhill.kent.sch.uk

SCHOOL DINNERS

PLEASE NOTE THAT SCHOOL DINNERS ARE £2.20 PER DAY £11.00 PER WEEK.

THIS IS PAYABLE WEEKLY, MONTHLY OR BY EACH TERM AND NEEDS TO BE PAID IN ADVANCE OF THE MEALS BEING TAKEN.

If paying by Cheque please make cheques payable to KCC re: Rowhill School

**PLEASE CAN WE ASK, THAT IF YOUR CHILD WISHES TO CHANGE THEIR LUNCH OPTION, YOU LET THE SCHOOL OFFICE KNOW STRAIGHT AWAY SO THAT WE CAN INFORM THE COOK AND MAKE SURE ENOUGH FOOD IS ORDERED FOR THAT DAY
MANY THANKS**

CONTACT DETAILS

**Please can you let the school office know of any changes you make to your contact details, including mobile phones and emergency details. We should not need to contact you often but when we do, we really do need to, so please make us aware of any changes.
THANK YOU**

CHILD ABSENCE

If your child is absent from school please can you inform the school on the first day of your child's absence. Please can parent/carers contact Cathy Webb, on 01474 705377 extension 1, then 141 to explain the absence of your child. Should you wish to discuss any attendance issues please speak to Cathy Webb.

Can I please remind all parents/carers that Rowhill School is a no smoking site. Vapes and cigarettes are not permitted to be used on the site. Please can you ensure your child does not bring these into school.

**Kind regards
Sarah Thompson**

GUIDANCE FOR TAKING YOUR CHILD OUT OF SCHOOL DURING TERM TIME

Parents no longer have the right to take their child out of school during term time. By law you must ask permission for your child to miss school. If you do not, you risk being served with a penalty notice from the local authority. The Head Teacher does retain the right to authorise absence due to 'exceptional circumstances'. If you wish to take your child out of school during term time please write to the Head Teacher in the first instance detailing your reasons for consideration, **we will then send a form home for you to complete.**

MEDICAL FORMS AND MEDICATION

If you have recently received a medical form for your child please can you return it to Leah Callahan as soon as possible. Also if your child has medication in school please ensure that we have a sufficient supply to last the term.

ROWHILL SCHOOL
ACADEMIC YEAR—TERM DATES
2017/2018



2017

TERM 1

Monday 4th September 2017 – Friday 20th October 2017

CHILDREN TO RETURN: TUESDAY 5TH SEPTEMBER 2017

MONDAY 4TH SEPTEMBER 2017 & FRIDAY 20TH OCTOBER 2017 TRAINING DAYS

BREAK: Monday 23rd October 2017 – Friday 27th October 2017

TERM 2

Monday 30th October 2017 – Wednesday 20th December 2017

CHRISTMAS BREAK: Thursday 21st December 2017 – Wednesday 3rd January 2018

MONDAY 27TH NOVEMBER 2017 TRAINING DAY

2018

TERM 3

Thursday 4th January 2018 – Friday 9th February 2018

BREAK: Monday 12th February 2018 – Friday 16th February 2018

MONDAY 22ND JANUARY 2018 TRAINING DAY

TERM 4

Monday 19th February 2018 – Thursday 29th March 2018

(Bank Holiday – Friday 30th March 2018 & Monday 2nd April 2018)

EASTER HOLDS: Monday 2nd April 2018 – Friday 13th April 2018

TERM 5

Monday 16th April 2018 – Friday 25th May 2018

Bank Holiday – Monday 7th May 2018 & Monday 28th May 2018

BREAK: Monday 28th May 2018 – Friday 1st June 2018

TUESDAY 8TH MAY 2018 TRAINING DAY

TERM 6

Monday 4th June 2018 – Tuesday 24th July 2018

PLANNED TRAINING DAYS:

4th September 2017

20th October 2017

27th November 2017

22nd January 2018

8th May 2018

PLEASE NOTE THAT CHILDREN DO NOT ATTEND SCHOOL ON PLANNED TRAINING DAYS