



Rosslyn Park Primary and Nursery School

COVID-19 Attendance Addendum

September 2020

In March 2020 when the coronavirus outbreak was increasing, and schools were only open to a core group of pupils, the Department for Education made it clear to parents that at this time attendance was non-compulsory. Parents choosing not to send their child to school, even if invited, would face no sanctions at the time.

Because of the change in circumstance with coronavirus and the decrease in the transmission rate, the Department for Education has made it clear that from the beginning of the autumn term, all pupils - with very few exceptions - will be expected to attend school on a regular basis. This Addendum to the Rosslyn Park Primary and Nursery School's Attendance Policy, details the school's procedures at this time in line with national guidance.

This addendum continues to be an interim document and will be amended and updated throughout this period as the situation changes, and should be read in conjunction with Rosslyn Park Primary and Nursery School's Attendance Policy.

Attendance from September 2020

After an extended period out of school it is vitally important that all our children return to school this autumn to minimise the impact of the pandemic. Attendance is therefore mandatory from the beginning of the Autumn Term, except where statutory exemptions apply.

The normal rules and sanctions as outlined in Section 444(1) and (1A) of the Education Act 1996 (England) will now be reapplied. From this point on the usual rules of school attendance apply;

- Parents/carers have a legal duty to ensure that if their child is of compulsory school age, their child regularly attends the school where the child is a registered pupil.
- Schools have a responsibility to record attendance and follow up absence
- Schools are able to issue sanctions, including fixed penalty notices in line with local authority's code of conduct

Staggered Start and Finish Times

Due to the need to avoid large gatherings of people around school, Year Groups now have staggered start and finish times. Parents/carers are asked to arrive as close to the time for their child as necessary. For the time being, if parents/carers have more than one child in school, they are able to drop off/collect their children at the earliest child's start/finish time.

Due to the staggered start and finish times, all registers will now close at 9.30am.

Please see below the current start and finish times for each year group:

Year Group	Start Time	Finish Time
EYFS - Reception	8.40am	2.45pm
Year 1	9.00am	3.05pm
Year 2	9.00am	3.05pm
Year 3	9.10am	3.20pm
Year 4	9.10am	3.20pm
Year 5	8.50am	3.10pm
Year 6	8.50am	3.10pm

When a child cannot come to school – related to COVID-19:

Children cannot come to school if **they or any of the people they live with** have any of the following:

- New/persistent cough
- High temperature
- Change or loss of taste or smell

If the **pupil** has the symptoms: They must begin to self-isolate, and book a COVID-19 test/order a home test kit. If they cannot get a test, they must instead self-isolate for at least **10** days.

If a **member of their household** has the symptoms: The symptomatic person must self isolate and book a COVID-19 test. Our school pupil must self isolate for **14** days, or until the results on the household member's test comes back.

Parents/carers are required to telephone the school absence line and report their child's absence due to self-isolating, on the first day of absence.

Parents/carers are asked to inform school as soon as they are made aware of the results of a COVID-19 test.

When a child is allowed to return to school – related to COVID-19

If it was a Pupil who was ill

- If a pupil has NOT been able to take a test, they can only return to school after they have finished their 10 days of self isolation – providing they feel well enough to do so.
- If a pupil takes a test and tests **negative**, and if they feel well and no longer have symptoms of COVID-19, they can stop self-isolating and return to school as soon as the test results come in.
- If a pupil tests **positive**, they should continue to self-isolate for at least 10 days from the onset of their symptoms. They should only return to school if they do not have symptoms **other than a cough or loss of sense of smell or taste**. This is because a cough or loss of taste/smell can last for several weeks once the infection has gone.

If it was a Member of the Household who was ill

- If the household member has NOT been able to take a test, our pupil can only return to school after they have finished their 14 days of self isolation – providing they are not showing any symptoms of COVID-19 themselves.
- If the member of the household takes a test and tests **negative**, the pupil can stop self-isolating and can return to school as soon as the test result is received.
- If the household member tests **positive**, the pupil should continue self-isolating for the full 14 days from when the member of their household first had symptoms. They may only return to school once the FULL self isolation period is over – providing our pupil and no other members of the household are displaying COVID-19 symptoms.

Quarantine after travelling abroad

As usual, parents should plan their holidays within school breaks and avoid seeking permission to take their children out of school during term time. Families should also consider that their child may need to self-isolate following trips overseas that require a period of quarantine.

Countries that do not require a period of quarantine on return to the UK are referred to as 'Travel Corridors' and can be found on the government website:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-travel-corridors>

Attendance codes to be used for COVID-19 related absence

If a child is absent from school due to self isolation, quarantine after arriving from another country, or awaiting COVID-19 test results, providing parents/carers inform school of this, then the child will be coded with an X code. Currently, X codes will not lower a child's attendance percentage.

All other absences such as non-COVID-19 related illness, holidays, and unauthorised absence will count as absence and will lower the child's attendance percentage - as usual.

Pupils who are clinically extremely vulnerable in a future local lockdown scenario only

Shielding advice for all adults and children paused on 1 August 2020. This means that even the small number of pupils who will remain on the shielded patient list can return to school, as can those who have family members who are shielding.

If in the future, rates of COVID-19 rise in local areas, children still on the shielding list (or family members still on the shielding list) from that area, and that area only, may be contacted by the government and advised to stay at home and shield during the period where rates remain high.

Families will receive a letter if they are required to shield again that parents/carers will be able to share with the school. Non-attendance in accordance with guidance from PHE or the DHSC will be recorded as code X, providing the shielding letter is presented to school by the parent/carer.

School will contact parents of pupils who are shielding when measures in the local area are lifted and shielding is paused again, to set out the expectation that they can return to school. Code X will not be used for sessions after the pupil has been advised to return to school.

All information found in this Addendum is liable to change or update at any time, in line with any new guidance from the Government, Department for Education, or Public Health England which is released.