



# Ryecroft C.E. Middle School

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Ryecroft C.E. Middle School  
Ashbourne Road  
Rocester  
Staffordshire  
ST14 5PB

5<sup>th</sup> April 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

As the end of term approaches, I would like to thank you for all your support throughout this very busy term; as always, it is greatly appreciated. Below are a few updates and reminders I wish to inform you of for the summer term.

## Catering

Many parents are aware that during the pandemic we moved from a cash system for school meals to an online payment and ordering system 'Aspens Select'. This service, although convenient, was very restrictive and did not allow us to re-introduce a breakfast service or a varied lunch menu for those who did not want a traditional school meal at lunchtime. Whilst we look into the feasibility of installing a biometric system which would facilitate a more flexible cashless catering offer, we have taken the decision, for the summer term, to move back to 'payment by cash' - this will be on a **cash only, pay daily basis**. Taking this decision ensures that all pupils will have access to a breakfast menu and a more varied offer at lunchtime. Updated menus and pricings are attached for your information.

### **Steps Aspens IT will complete to close down the Select App**

1. Cancel all meals that have been ordered after Friday 8th April 2022
2. Meals will no longer be available for ordering after Friday 8th April 2022
3. Aspens will then be able to action refunds through the Select system
4. Any refunds unable to be processed directly through the system will be referred to Aspens accounts department and arrange for cheques to be raised for the parents registered on the affected accounts.
5. Once all refunds have been completed, Aspens IT will ensure the Select parent accounts are cleared down and the school deactivated.

Please be assured that we will continue to ensure that sufficient food is available in school should a pupil forget their lunch etc.

If your child receives free school meals and/or is a pupil premium child, during the summer term they will be eligible for one item per day free of charge from the breakfast menu. This must be for their own personal consumption only.

Those pupils who bring a packed lunch from home can obviously continue to do so using the established procedures.

## **UTTOXETER LEARNING TRUST**



Part of the Uttoxeter Learning Trust

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## **Uniform**

We also wanted to take this opportunity, ahead of the Easter Holidays, to revisit important information regarding our expectations with uniform, PE kit, ear piercings and equipment etc. Whilst most children attend school looking smart and bring all the required equipment with them, there are unfortunately a few who are not meeting our expectations.

**Ear Piercings:** For safety reasons, pupils **MUST** remove their earrings for Physical Education lessons. If your child is not able to remove these for lessons, then they will not be able to participate practically. Earrings should consist of one small plain gold or silver stud in one or both ear lobes. Jewelled, or dangly earrings are **NOT** permitted.

**Make-Up, Hair and Nails:** Make up and nail varnish are not permitted in school. Hair should be kept in a clean and tidy condition. Exaggerated styles, excessive hair accessories or exaggerated colours are not acceptable e.g. tram lines, number one haircuts, large bows or headbands etc.

**Footwear:** Your child must wear **black flat shoes** – boots, trainers and sandals are not acceptable footwear.

**Black Trousers:** not jeans, chinos, bootleg, cropped, skinny or hipsters.

**Skirt:** Regulation black or blue skirt, length - just above the knee

**School tie:** in House colour - must be worn at the correct length

Changing rooms will be reopened for the summer term. As such, on days that your child has a PE lesson they will be required to come into school wearing their school uniform and change for PE lessons.

## **End of Year Visit**

We are delighted to be reinstating our annual end of year visit to Alton Towers/Splash Landings. This year this will be on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2022. A letter was sent out yesterday, could we please remind parents to ensure the 'expression of interest' is returned by 29<sup>th</sup> April in order for us to secure admission tickets.

Finally, we would like to wish you all a very happy family time at Easter and look forward to the pupils returning on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2022, ready to begin the Summer Term.

Yours sincerely



**Mrs T Evans**  
**School Business Manager**