



Charity number: 1114179

Riding Mill Outdoor Preschool

Broomhaugh CE Aided First School
Church Lane
Riding Mill
Northumberland
NE44 6DR

Preschool Leader - Ruth Brown

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April 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome to the final term of the school year! Huge thanks to Ruth and the team for all their work in keeping RMOP the safe and happy place that it is. After Easter, as well as welcoming some new starters, we are also aware that our older children will begin looking forward to joining a Reception class in September: exciting times!

As a committee, we also begin the annual process of reviewing our procedures, Terms and Conditions and finances. In particular, we have to take account of increased running costs. These are not due solely to the effects of inflation, but also the increase in the National Living Wage from April and - also from April- a considerable rise in our monthly rent.

It is therefore inevitable that we are forced to increase the hourly rates charged for self-funded children. These have remained the same since we opened in 2018 and, even with the modest increases shown below, we believe that RMOP's rates are very competitive in the area and offer excellent staff ratios and fantastic value.

From September 2021, under 3 children will be charged £5.50 per hour or part thereof and the cost for over 3s will be £5. Scurries wraparound will remain £5.50 per hour or part thereof. The recommended voluntary contribution for snack, cooking etc will be £1 per day attended. Invoicing will remain termly in advance for core hours, as per the existing Terms and Conditions.

Just a reminder: if you need to make any changes to your child's bookings, please ensure that the request is in writing so that our records are up to date. As a small charity, we do have to make sure that we balance the books and even a small reduction in income can affect our budgeting for staffing ratios. Happily, most changes are for increases in hours and Ruth is always happy to receive these – although some sessions are full in the Summer term. Whether increasing or reducing hours, you are required to fill in the appropriate form which can be downloaded from the website.

As always, we thank you for your continuing support of RMOP. As soon as circumstances allow, we hope to organise some social / fundraising events. If you would like to help with the planning of these, please contact Ruth or any member of the Management Committee team.

With very best wishes

On behalf of the Management Committee Team (Carole Smith, Helen Ridley, Peter Judge, Jen Stephenson, Amanda Morgan, Angela Beales)