FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQS) for PARENTS OF P1 STUDENTS

Transition to Primary School

Q1 How many members of the family can participate in the Day 1 Programme? Can parents bring along our other children, who are also Rosyth students?

Up to 2 persons per student can participate in the Day 1 programme. This could be both parents or one parent and another caregiver e.g. grandparent. Please note that only the enrolled Primary 1 student should attend. Siblings and other children should not accompany their parents. We kindly request parents to make the necessary childcare arrangements for their other children on that day.

Q2 Will parents be allowed to enter the school during the first few days of school?

Parents are invited to attend only the Day 1 Programme. This allows our Primary 1 students to start their journey of growth to develop independence.

There is no vehicular access to the school for parents during school hours. Therefore, parents will not be able to drive into school to attend the Day 1 programme. Pedestrian access is via the main entrance (Gate 1) or the side gate (Gate 7).

From the second day of school, parents/guardians are not allowed to enter the school compound except for picking up/dropping off children during designated timings (see Q8). Visitors with prior appointment or on official business must register at the main entrance guard post before accessing the school.

Q3 What is the class size for P1?

Our Primary 1 classes typically have 30 students. For specialised programmes such as TRANSIT and Learning Support, class sizes will be smaller.

Q4 What do children entering P1 find most difficult, and what can parents do to support them through the change?

Most children find the longer hours in Primary school as compared to their kindergarten years challenging. Parents can encourage their children with positive messages about entering Primary school and set routines together with them so they are better prepared about what they can expect. More tips can be found in resources such as the Parent Kit (https://www.moe.gov.sg/parentkit).

As P1 children are learning to manage more resources independently, they may also lose their items. Parents should **label all items with their child's name and class**. Students can try to locate misplaced items at the lost and found counters around the school or approach the General Office.

Parents are also encouraged to join the Rosyth's Parents Support Group (PSG) so that your children can witness that you are an active member of the school community.

Q5 Will there be support for my child who may need more help in learning?

The school recognises that children have varying interests, strengths, needs and levels of readiness and our teachers do their best to support them. The school also offers learning support programmes in Mathematics and English literacy. For students who may have other forms of learning needs, our team of Special Educational Needs Officers (SENOs) design individualised approaches to provide targeted support. If you have specific concerns, please contact the school directly for a discussion.

Q6 Is there homework for P1 students?

Easing your child into the school routines will be our priority. Homework will be assigned where appropriate and necessary, and in accordance with the school's homework policy, which can be found in the Student Handbook. At the P1 level, students can expect a homework load of approximately 30 min per day during term time.

General School Information and Policies

Q7 What are the school hours?

School Curricular Hours:

- Primary 1-3: 7.30 a.m. – 1.20 p.m.
- Primary 4-6: 7.30 a.m. – 1.30 p.m.
- School hours apply from Mondays to Fridays

Daily Flag Raising Ceremony:

- Students should arrive at the designated reporting areas (assembly venues or classrooms) by 7.30 a.m.

Q8 How should I make transport arrangements for my child?

Parents who drive should take note of the following drop-off and pick-up timings:

Morning drop-off	6.15 a.m. to 7.30 a.m.
Pick-up after lessons	1.45 p.m. to 2.15 p.m.
Pick-up for after CCA/ Student Care	4.15 p.m. to 6.00 p.m.

Outside of the above timings, please arrange with your child for pick-up from the side gate (Gate 7). Parents should ensure their children know the procedure for any delayed pick-ups.

Q9 What are the communication modes for parents to contact school staff?

There are several ways for parents to communicate with our teachers. However, we request parents to keep all engagements to within 5.00 p.m., unless in cases of emergency, to support our staff's well-being.

- Email: Staff email addresses are published on our school website (https://www.rosyth.moe.edu.sg/contact-us).
- Student Handbook: As students are expected to use their handbook daily to record teachers' instructions and important information, you can refer to the notes to keep updated on your children's school life.
- Parents' letters: Write messages for your children to hand to the relevant staff.
- Telephone call: Call our General Office (6481 2273 / 6483 4020) to request for the relevant staff to return your call. Please note that our staff are engaged in several activities within a workday and may not be able to return calls immediately.
- In alignment to MOE service standards, our aim is to respond to general or simple enquiries within 3 working days. Issues that are more complex and require investigation may take longer to resolve.

Q10 What are the guidelines about absence from school? Would a parent's letter suffice for a short period of illness or to embark on travel during term time?

If the child is unwell, parents are advised to bring the child to a doctor and submit the medical certificate (MC) to the school. A parent's letter is usually acceptable if the child needs an extra day to recover from an existing illness. Letters from parents should be issued minimally, and we strongly encourage parents to seek professional medical advice for instances where the child's symptoms are frequent, persistent and/or more severe, and require absence for 2 days or more.

Students should travel overseas only during the school holiday periods as published by MOE. This is so our Rosythians learn to follow a routine for learning right from a young age and do not miss out on participating in school experiences with their peers. Frequent absences can have a significant impact on a student's academic progress, personal development, and overall school experience.

Parents may wish to note that frequent or extended absences also affect the children's school attendance record and impact their conduct grade. We seek your strong support and commitment to ensuring your child's attendance in school.

Q11 Can students use schoolbags with wheels?

Schoolbags with wheels are strongly discouraged due to safety concerns. Such schoolbags can be difficult for children to maneuver up and down stairs. They also pose a tripping hazard for surrounding students. Your cooperation and support are greatly appreciated as we create a safe environment for our students.

Q12 How many sets of school uniform and PE attire should I purchase for my child?

As Primary 1 students will have either PE or PAL lessons on most days of the week, parents are encouraged to purchase 2 to 3 sets of PE attire. Your child should also have at least 1 set of the full school uniform.

Q13 Which Mother Tongue Language books should I purchase for my child?

Parents should purchase the **standard** Mother Tongue Language books according to the official Mother Tongue Language taken by their child. For example, if your

child is taking Chinese Language, please purchase the standard Chinese Language books. The required books will be indicated in the book list, which will be shared with parents**.**

Q14 Can students bring electronic devices to school such as mobile phones and smart watches?

We strongly discourage students from bringing mobile phones or wearing smart watches as these devices can be a distraction and are also generally expensive. An exception is the POSB Smart Buddy watch that serves as a mode of payment for students' canteen purchases.

Students in primary schools are also at an age when they are just starting to learn to manage their belongings independently. The school will not entertain requests for compensation or search should these items be misplaced or lost.

If there is a need to make calls, students may use the telephones in the General Office. Should parents deem it a need for the child to have a mobile phone or smart watch on hand, the device should be **switched off** in school, unless permission is granted by a teacher for the child to use it. Please refer to the Student Handbook on the school rules and guidelines.

Q15 What should I tell my child if the toilet lights appear to be off?

The lights in the school toilets are **sensor-activated**. At times, the lights may take a short while to come on when your child enters the toilet. Please reassure your child that the lights will switch on automatically when movement is detected.

Recess

Q16 When will the P1 students have their recess? In which areas of the school can students consume their food?

Recess for P1 takes place from 8.30 a.m. to 9.00 a.m. on a typical school day. All students should consume their food in the canteen during recess.

Q17 How many breaks do students have in a school day?

Students have a 30-minute recess break. Besides recess time, there is also a 10-minute noon break for snacking in classrooms. Please pack healthy snacks for this.

Q18 What are the food options at the canteen and how much money should my child bring to school each day?

The school canteen participates in the Healthy School Meals programme. There is a sufficient variety of nutritious food options available at the canteen, including noodle and rice dishes, vegetarian, and Halal choices. Prices range from $2.30 for small portions to $2.80 for large portions. We recommend allocating about $3 per day for your child's meals. As our students are young and still learning, we advise against bringing large sums of money to school to minimise the risk of loss or misuse.

Q19 Is there any support for my child to make purchases during recess?

For the Day 1 programme, teachers will be present to assist the children. For the next three school days, the Primary 1 students will be paired with Primary 3 buddies. The P3 buddies will provide support and guidance to them. They will assist the P1 students in navigating the canteen, purchasing food from stalls, and following recess routines, including cleaning up after meals by wiping down their tables.

After-school Arrangements

Q20 What is the practice for after-school care at the school-based Student Care Centre (SCC)?

After school dismissal, the SCC assumes duty of care for registered students. The Centre provides lunch, followed by a short rest period, after which students engage in the revision of schoolwork and playtime with friends.

Q21 When can students join CCAs?

Students can look forward to commencing their chosen CCA in Primary 3. In Primary 2, students will attend a briefing on available Co-Curricular Activities (CCAs) in Semester 2 and express their preferences. Please note that the school's CCA offerings are subject to change.

Q22 How can I register my child for the school's enrichment activities?

Parents can access information about the optional enrichment activities organised by our Parent Support Group (PSG) through the Parents Gateway. These activities are independently run by the PSG at competitive rates and the school staff are not involved in these programmes. Additional details will be shared by PSG representatives.