

5th September 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

Rogerstone Moving Forward

As a school, over the last year, we have been evaluating the everyday life skills we can see our pupils need to be able to live full, happy, safe and purposeful lives. These skills are in addition to the academic skills of literacy, numeracy and the other Areas of Learning Experience that are taught throughout the year.

During school hours, whilst engaged in things like trips, residential and swimming, we have noticed that there are some everyday life essentials that our pupils have not yet mastered that we feel are important. Some of these are quite simple, for example tying shoelaces and using cutlery, where some are more complex. These gaps in essential skills are impacting in school and we believe that it is important that we try to address them.

The extended use of Beanies last year certainly started to develop many skills that children may not have had the chance to develop whilst in school. We want to build on this further.

As a result, the children will engage in a day every fortnight to learning, practising and embedding essential skills that have been identified as a need, within the individual classes or year groups. Again, these will range in complexity including practical hands-on skills, social skills, play skills and emotional regulation skills to name a few. Some of the activities when after school clubs start will focus on these essentials.

Home learning will support the development of these skills. From the week ending 29/9/23, the home learning tasks will have an essential skill focus rather than literacy or numeracy. You will be able to see what the children have been learning and developing in school and will be able to support your child to practise that skill(s) and possibly take it/them further. Reading books will be sent home as usual.

One essential that the children will be developing again this year will be self-managing when changing for PE. Kit - shorts, t-shirt, - (joggers and PE hoodie for the colder weather) will need to be brought into and left in school. Kit is no longer to be worn to school on designated days.

We are very excited with the prospect of teaching, practising and developing the Rogerstone Essentials with the children and to help you understand more of the detail, we will be running some information afternoons/evenings throughout the year.

Dates for these will follow soon.

Very best wishes.



Steve Rayer
Headteacher