



Dear Parents and Carers,

In these unusual circumstances we are writing to introduce the Reading School Parents Association (RSPA) to you. We would like to take this opportunity to warmly welcome you and your son to the Reading School family and we hope that you and your families are well.

The RSPA is an active and vibrant part of the Reading School Family and we are looking forward to welcoming and assisting you through every step even before your son officially joins the School in September. Unfortunately, the Corona Virus social restriction means that we cannot currently organise any in person introduction events. However, as soon as it is possible after ease of social meeting restriction, the RSPA will organise a social event, so that all new parents and boys have the opportunity to connect and build up the ever so necessary bond that will last till the boys leave the school.

The RSPA feel that one of their most vital roles in the life of the School is supporting the families of the boys and in particular the families of the new Year 7 boys. As a member of the RSPA we are delighted to say you are joining a network of parents across the whole School who can be called on to support your son's Reading School journey. The other fabulous work we do can be seen on our website, more details on that are found below.

### **Classlist – RSPA Online Membership Portal**

As an RSPA member you will have access to our parent communication portal (Classlist). Here you will be able to immediately start to communicate with other members in your class and you will also be supported by an existing parent member who is there to help you, answer questions you may have and to provide ongoing help and information updates in getting you ready for September. We will also use this route to keep you updated as soon as we can plan introduction and social events and openings for the RSPA 2<sup>nd</sup> Hand Uniform Shop etc.

Classlist is where we as parents support each other from a very active Lost Property group, to parents creating their own groups for school trips or car sharing or even making groups for boys who are travelling in the same bus or train. Here RSPA members are able to ask questions, receive notifications around important events and share information within communities e.g. boarding communities, year groups etc.

### **How to join the RSPA**

We would love you to join us. By joining us there is no commitment to be involved in anything unless you would like to. Please find our online membership form and details of payment <https://www.readingschoolpa.org.uk/membership-application>. Any questions around membership can be directed to our Membership Secretary **Subha Srini** - [memsec@readingschoolparents.co.uk](mailto:memsec@readingschoolparents.co.uk). Subha will be in touch with you via email once the application is processed and will email you an invitation link to join the Classlist.

The RSPA objectives are to support the School, parents, carers and students, enabling opportunities or resources to be available to our boys that might not have been available otherwise. We do this using the membership fees and via our many routes of fundraising

At RSPA, we carry out the following activities:

1. Providing a support network for the parents and carers during their time at the school.
2. Supporting extra-curricular activities e.g. External competitions, Junior Prize Giving & Year 13 Leavers' celebration.
3. Helping enhance the school's environment e.g. funding a Multi-Use Games Area, funding the outdoor gym equipment over the Covid pandemic time and a Canopy Project to provide a covered area outside the Library. We are also currently installing new benches around the school.
4. Fundraising to help fill any requirements not met by the Government budget, such as two new minibuses & resources for extracurricular activities.
5. Providing non-standard, additional and enhanced classroom resources e.g. books, biology & chemistry laboratory equipment, Art Resources, research laptops and leadership resources.

The RSPA also provides the following other social media routes for keeping up to date with our activities.

### **Facebook**

The RSPA has a Facebook page called “Reading School Parents Association”. This provides details on our events throughout the year and updates on our activities. For each school year we also administrate an individual page and yours can be found at “2021 Entry Parents and Carers of Reading School”. You will be asked a couple of security questions in order to be able to join.

### **Website**

For lots of great information around what the parents of Reading School do to support the school and ways you can assist, from online shopping sites to donating reading books from your son’s shelves the place to go is our wonderful website at [www.readingschoolpa.org.uk](http://www.readingschoolpa.org.uk).

**Twitter** - “RSPARReading”

**Instagram** - “ReadingSchoolParents”

**LinkedIn** - “Reading School Parents Association Friends and Supporters”

### **Virtual Meeting**

We would like to welcome every one of you to attend the “Virtual Meeting” on the following days using the link below. This will be an opportunity for us to welcome you to the RSPA family and to support you as parents with any queries you may have around starting at the School.

House	Date	Time
County	Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> June '21	6:30 pm till 7:30 pm
East	Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> June'21	6:30 pm till 7:30 pm
Laud	Wed -9th June '21	6:30 pm till 7:30 pm
School	Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> June'21	6:30 pm till 7:30 pm
West	Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> June'21	6:30 pm till 7:30 pm

Link for the Meeting:

[https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting\\_YjRmMmE5NWYtYTI3OS00MjI2LWI4NmEtMGEwYzZcwZDRIMjM5%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22dd53a440-fd6a-405e-bbe6-52b1e61e82db%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22966c42e6-8386-4761-b21b-1a4ebda1a9c1%22%7d](https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_YjRmMmE5NWYtYTI3OS00MjI2LWI4NmEtMGEwYzZcwZDRIMjM5%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22dd53a440-fd6a-405e-bbe6-52b1e61e82db%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22966c42e6-8386-4761-b21b-1a4ebda1a9c1%22%7d)

Please keep safe, looking forward to meeting you in person in the near future.

Please note that you should expect the School to inform you of which house your son is joining at the end of May.

Best wishes from

***RSPA***

Reading School Parents Association