



Invitations Policy

Rationale

School is a place where children learn their first lessons of social interaction. It is a place where children first learn to share and care about the feelings of others. *The Social and Emotional Aspects of Learning* (SEALS) reinforces the principles of positive social interaction. Inclusion is a vital part of children learning that we are all equal and valued. No person should be excluded because of who they are or because of the background they come from. Ramsden Primary School values inclusion for all children wherever possible. It is with this in mind that this school's policy on invitations has been developed.

Aims

The school acknowledges that learning goes beyond the simple narrow confines of the primary curriculum and that life is not 'all a bed of roses.' Schools have for a long time been able to navigate the choppy waters of what to teach children and when. Inviting Father Christmas to come into school during part of the year in order to heighten the innocent magic of Christmas does not mean that we do not teach children about staying safe online. However, although crime is an unfortunate part of life, we would not encourage it to be done in school in order for the children to 'learn' that lesson.

The school will therefore only allow parents to use it as a means of distribution for such things as party invitations if all children are in receipt of an invitation.

The school acknowledges that parents may not be able to afford to invite a whole class to a party but in this situation invites must be given out beyond the school yard and not within the confines of the school itself.

The school acknowledges that people hold opposing views about children needing to learn life's harsh lessons. However, parents must accept that birthday parties and such like are not school activities and are not organised by the school. It is therefore unacceptable for school to be drawn into either side of the debate.

Similarly, celebratory food that is brought into school must be for the class as a whole and not just part of the class. Also, if parents want to bring birthday cake into school, please ensure that it is already portioned into the correct amount of pieces before doing so.