

Aspiration
Respect
Endeavour

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Roding Valley
HIGH SCHOOL

Thursday 27th August 2020

Dear Parents / Carers,

I trust that everyone is keeping well and as a school, we are really looking forward to welcoming back the children next week.

There has been a lot of media attention on exams, and I can report that I am delighted and proud of all our Year 11 and Year 13 students and their GCSE and A level results which were a fair reflection of their hard work and efforts. We have continued our upward trajectory of improved outcomes, and there have been some quite outstanding individual performances. The majority of our students achieved their first choice university place, and we have enrolled record numbers into our 6th Form, which is now full.

[Please do read our most recent press release.](#)

I believe that we all recognise that it is now the time for students to return to school, but I also appreciate that there may be concerns. Can I reassure you all that we have implemented all measures that we can to promote a safe environment. As per my previous correspondence, we have implemented enhanced hand cleaning and hand sanitation points, year group bubbles, no-stopping zones, zones for staggered 'bubble' breaks and staggered start and finish times. We have invested in creating additional outside covered areas with each zone having access to food provision and toilets. Students will not move for every lesson as we try to avoid mass movement around the school site. Students should come to school fully equipped as per normal expectations and wear full school uniform. Silent reading will form part of our lesson changeover procedure, so it is vital that your child has a reading book as part of their equipment. I would also advise that every child has their own hand sanitiser with them too. Can I also remind parents that they cannot enter the school site without a prior appointment. Please also note the latest government advice for parents on the return to school <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak>

I did write to all parents at the end of term: please see links to individual letters for further details - letters are on the website

[Year 7 Induction Day Letter](#)

[Year 8 to 10 Letter](#)

[Year 11 Letter](#)

[Year 12 Induction letter](#)

[Year 13 Letter](#)

Face Coverings:

Following the government's recent announcement regarding face coverings, we have made a decision that we believe is both safe and appropriate. We will be asking students and teachers to wear face coverings when moving around the school site, such as in corridors and communal areas where social distancing is difficult to maintain. As in the general approach, it will not usually be necessary to wear face coverings in the classroom, where protective measures already mean the risks are lower, and we feel they may inhibit teaching and learning. However, if you feel that your child should wear a mask in lessons, please contact their Year Progress Leader so that an individual risk assessment can be carried out.



Government advice on face coverings in education:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/face-coverings-in-education/face-coverings-in-education>

Therefore, **students should as part of their daily equipment always carry a face covering which they should wear as they move around the school site between lessons and in indoor recreational spaces such as the canteen.** We would advise that students have a disposable medical grade mask or a plain fabric face covering. Students will, of course, also be wearing face coverings whilst travelling on public transport on their journey to and from school.

For clarity, the start of term for each year group is as follows:

Student Starting Information for September 2020		
Wednesday 2nd September	Staff Training Day	School closed to all students
Thursday 3rd September	Year 7 Students Induction Day	All Year 7 students must arrive at 8:20 am at the Roding Valley Sports Facilities . School will finish at 2:40 pm
	Year 8 to Year 10	Should not attend school - other than to attend their allotted appointment time for their Wellbeing and Progress Meeting - appointment letters have been sent separately
	Year 11 Students	Should not attend school
	Year 12 Students	Should not attend school
	Year 13 Students Induction Day	All Year 13 Students should arrive at 8:30 am at the Brook Road Gate . Please refer to the Year 13 Starting information letter on the school website for school finish times.
Friday 4th September	Year 7 Students Induction Day 2	All Year 7 students must arrive at 8:20 am at the Roding Valley Sports Facilities . School will finish at 2:40 pm
	Year 8 to Year 10	Should not attend school - other than to attend their allotted appointment time for their Wellbeing and Progress Meeting - appointment letters have been sent separately
	Year 11 Students	Should not attend school
	Year 12 Students	Should not attend school
	Year 13 Students Induction Day	Year 13 students should only attend for their timetabled lessons.
Monday 7th September	Year 7 Students	Should not attend school - Home learning day
	Year 8 to Year 10	Should not attend school - other than to attend their allotted appointment time for their Wellbeing and Progress Meeting - appointment letters have been sent separately

	Year 11 Student Induction Day	Year 11 students will need to arrive at 10 am to the Brook Road Gate. School will finish at 12 pm.
	Year 12 Student Induction Day	Year 12 students should arrive at 8:30 am and enter the site via the door on the front of the school building next to Miss Dyer's office.
	Year 13 Students	Should not attend school - Home learning day
Tuesday 8th September	All Year 7 to 11 Students	All students in Years 7-11 should attend for a normal school day - start of timetabled lessons.
	Year 12 students	Year 12 students must attend school to have their Photograph taken - if they have no timetabled lessons they will be allowed to leave for the day.
	Year 13 Students	Year 13 students should attend school for their Pre-Public Exams.

The school day will run as follows:

13		9.00 Arrival	9.00-10.00 Period 2	10-11.00 Period 3	11.00-11.25 Break	11.25 Line up	11.30-12.30 Period 4	12.30-13.30 Period 5	13.30 Departure	Period 6 Online			
12		9.00 Arrival	9.00-10.00 Period 2	10-11.00 Period 3	11.00-11.25 Break	11.25 Line up	11.30-12.30 Period 4	12.30-13.30 Period 5	13.30 Departure	Period 6 online			
11		8.50 Arrival 8.55 Line Up	9.00-10.00 Period 2	10-11.00 Period 3	11.00-11.25 Break	11.25 Line up	11.30-12.30 Period 4	12.30-13.30 Period 5	13.30-13.55 Break	13.55 Line up	14.00-15.00 Period 6	15.00-16.00 Period 7 Intervention/ C&C as appropriate	
10		8.50 Arrival 8.55 Line Up	9.00-10.00 Period 2	10-11.00 Period 3	11.00-11.25 Break	11.25 Line up	11.30-12.30 Period 4	12.30-13.30 Period 5	13.30-13.55 Break	13.55 Line up	14.00-15.00 Period 6	15.00-15.20 Reg/C&C	15.20 Departure
9		8.30 Arrival 8.35 Line Up	8.40-9.00 Period 1	9.00-10.00 Period 2	10.00-10.25 Break	10.25 Line up	10.30-11.30 Period 3	11.30-12.30 Period 4	12.30-12.55 Break	12.55 Line up	13.00-14.00 Period 5	14.00-14.50 Period 6	14.50 Departure
8		8.30 Arrival 8.35 Line Up	8.40-9.00 Period 1	9.00-10.00 Period 2	10.00-10.25 Break	10.25 Line up	10.30-11.30 Period 3	11.30-12.30 Period 4	12.30-12.55 Break	12.55 Line up	13.00-14.00 Period 5	14.00-14.40 Period 6	14.40 Departure
7		8.20 Arrival 8.35 Line Up	8.40-9.00 Period 1	9.00-10.00 Period 2	10.00-10.25 Break	10.25 Line up	10.30-11.30 Period 3	11.30-12.30 Period 4	12.30-12.55 Break	12.55 Line up	13.00-14.00 Period 5	14.00-14.40 Period 6	14.40 Departure

Arrival points and times:

Year Group	Gate Entrance	Arrival time
7	Sports facilities gate	8.20 am
8	Top Brook Road gate (next to driveway)	8.30 am
9	Bottom Brook Road gate (nearest Brook Building)	8.30 am
10	Top Brook Road gate (next to driveway)	8.50 am
11	Bottom Brook Road gate (nearest Brook Building)	8.50 am
12/13	Front car park entrance (<i>please note that the car park will be shut at this time to allow students to enter safely</i>)	8.50 am

Travel to and from school:

If students are travelling by public bus or train then we expect them to follow the government advice (see <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-safer-travel-guidance-for-passengers>); in particular, we have highlighted the following points we feel particularly relevant to school travel:

- Use a face covering on public transport and in substantially enclosed areas of transport hubs
- Travel side by side or behind other people, rather than facing them, where seating arrangements allow
- Touch as few surfaces as possible
- Avoid loud talking, shouting or singing

We appreciate that some services are busy and can become crowded and hence our staggered start and finish times, students should immediately go to the bus stop or train station at the end of their school day and not wait for other students in different year group bubbles.

We would like to remind you that whilst students are travelling to and from school or whilst they are in uniform which makes them identifiable as a Roding Valley student, they remain under the school's behaviour policy. If students visit shops in the local area whilst in school uniform they will be expected to follow the guidance regarding face coverings and social distancing specific to the shop and similarly remain under the school's behaviour policy.

There is an amendment to the uniform in that on the days students have PE then they should attend in their PE kit in line with the current RVHS PE kit expectations as well as

their blazer, which is a compulsory item of clothing. If any pupil has not acquired the school tracksuit, a plain black or blue tracksuit is allowed to be worn. Hoodies are not permitted and will be confiscated if seen. On these days students should travel to and from school in their tracksuit bottoms or leggings. The blazer should be worn at all times, not least of all to disguise the name badge lots of children have had embroidered on their PE top. We have relaxed the expectation on footwear for the days students have PE to allow them to wear plain black, white, dark blue or grey trainers with their PE kit during their classroom-based lessons. If your child does not have plain black, white, dark blue or grey trainers, they should wear their school shoes and change into their sports shoes for the PE lesson. For the purpose of health and safety, it is important that appropriate sports footwear must be worn for PE lessons.

Year 11 will not be participating in core PE (A side on Monday afternoons and B side on Tuesday afternoons) for the autumn term but will be released from school early on that afternoon and will be given additional Maths and English catch up to do remotely or on-site as arranged by the subject staff.


Parent Pay - School Meals

Please can I take this opportunity to remind all parents that as part of our measure to ensure that both our staff and students are kept safe, we will no longer be accepting cash payments in school. All payments must be made online via ParentPay or via Pay Point facility in your local Newsagents or Post Office. If you have not activated your ParentPay Account or are experiencing any difficulty using it, please contact the Finance Office at finance@rodingvalley.net, who will be happy to help you.

I would also like to inform you that due to the maintenance of our cashless catering till system, School Meals on ParentPay will be unavailable for payments from **9 pm on Sunday 30th August** until **Tuesday 1st September 2020**. You will then be able to make payments from **Wednesday 2nd September**. Apologies for any inconvenience this may cause.

Enjoy the Bank Holiday weekend - hopefully, the sun will return.

Yours sincerely



Sharon Jenner
Headteacher