

Aspiration  
Respect  
Endeavour

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Roding Valley  
HIGH SCHOOL

27<sup>th</sup> April, 2022

Dear Parents / Carers

Thankfully we are seeing warmer days and longer, lighter evenings at last. However, this does come with it, the temptation for students to hang around after school and not make their way straight home. Unfortunately, this tends to upset the local community and often reflects badly on young people and the school. The vast majority of the time, young people are not doing anything wrong at all, but young people congregating in groups can be intimidating to other people in the local community, particularly those who are elderly or vulnerable in some way. Please ensure that your child makes their way straight home after school, getting the earliest bus or train available to them if this is how they make their way home. Just last week we had a number of complaints about students in our uniform making a nuisance of themselves with water pistols. Now while I am delighted that young people are enjoying such simple fun activities, out in the fresh air, I am sure you can see and understand how this may have been perceived by some of the people that were caught in the cross-fire and the damage it can do to the reputation of the lovely young people that attend our school. We are surrounded by open spaces and parks in and around the Loughton area. I am sure you will agree, there is a time and a place for such activities - it is not appropriate at Loughton Station, in school uniform, in a busy place where people are trying to go about their daily lives. Please ensure your child understands our expectations of their conduct in a public place so they do not let you, themselves and us down.

We have once again been reminding students about taking their usual route home, sticking to busy, well used roads and paths and walking with friends where possible. Unfortunately, there have again been reports of students being approached and, in some cases, robbed of mobile phones, headphones and other valuable items. Please encourage your child to keep any valuable items that they have to have with them, out of sight and make sure they know what to do in the event of being approached by someone. Our advice would always be to hand it over. These material things can be replaced.

We have had some recent communication with the Transport for London Enforcement Officers at Loughton Station. They are concerned about the number of young people pushing through the barriers and not paying for travel. Some of these young people have then not behaved well on the platforms and tubes. Obviously, we will work closely with them to identify anyone we can on CCTV that is a Roding Valley student, but I would urge you to discuss this with your children if they use the London underground to travel to or from school. If you are experiencing financial hardship and would like some support, please do contact me and we will try to help where we can. The Officers also explained that they carry out random checks on [Zip Oyster Cards](#). They explained that if the picture on the card is defaced, or scratched out, they will consider confiscating the card on the spot. This is obviously to deter people from using cards that are not their own. Please ensure, if your



child holds a Zip Card, that it is not defaced, to prevent them from being denied travel, or someone being able to use their card fraudulently.

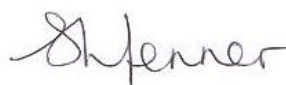
The topics for the summer term in Personal Development for Year 7 - 10 are “Relationships” and “Changing Me.” Each year group will focus on an aspect of these in a slightly different age appropriate way. I am sure these topics are likely to generate discussions at home, so I thought it would be good for you to be reminded of the Personal Development page on our website which you can find [here](#). Year 11 and Year 13 are mostly focussing on Study Skills for the next couple of weeks leading into the summer exam season and Year 12 will be looking at personal finance.

As always, I would urge you to keep in touch with us. The triangle between the young person, home and school is crucial to support that young person and ensure they are well supported and making good progress.

Yours faithfully



Miss S Dyer  
Deputy Headteacher



Mrs S Jenner  
Headteacher

