



19th July 2022

Dear Parent / Carer

School closes on Friday 22nd July at 12.20 pm for students. Due to the continued hot weather we have agreed that students can continue to wear PE kit for Wednesday and Thursday.

Friday will be a non-uniform day - a charitable donation can be made via parent pay. Usual expectations around appropriate clothing apply.

As what has been an amazing academic year draws to a close, I want to thank you for your support. Your children have been incredible and have embraced the opportunities presented to them. I have been incredibly proud to see the school return to a full plethora of extra-curricular activities, including some residential trips.

It is time to start looking ahead to the new academic year, and I wanted to remind you of some basic school expectations and share important information with you.

Returning to school September 2022

Year 7 and Year 12 students return on Friday 2nd September 2022.

Year 7 should arrive at the Brook Road gate entrance for 8.35 am.

Year 12 should arrive at the Sports Hall gate (Alderton Hill) for 8.45 am.

Year 8, 9, 10, 11 and 13 return on Monday 5th September and should arrive at Brook Road gate entrance by 8.25am. Gates will open at 8.20am.

Following the Government's publication of the [white paper](#) in March 2022, we have revised the timings of our school day to ensure a 32.5 hour week. We have gained 10 minutes in period 1, which we are delighted about as this is incredibly important curriculum time. In period 1, we deliver interventions for exam groups, teach part of the highly valuable Personal Development programme, hold House events, mentor students, conduct uniform and equipment checks, hold assemblies and host visiting speakers. This will also allow us to deliver more period 1 sessions in our vertical house groups, allowing all year groups to interact and learn from each other and a real chance to create an even tighter community feel throughout all year groups.



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The timings of the school day will be as follows:

8.20am	Students arrive to Brook Road gate entrance
8.30am	Gate closes and students move to period 1
8.30am - 9am	Period 1
9am - 10am	Period 2
10am - 11am	Period 3
11am - 11.20am	Morning Break
11.20am - 12.20pm	Period 4
12.20pm - 1.20pm	Period 5
1.20pm - 2pm	Afternoon Break (Lunch)
2pm - 3pm	Period 6

Uniform

All students should be in perfect school uniform at all times. Please see the table below for the details of each uniform item for students in Years 7 - 11. You will be aware that we recently revisited our uniform expectations to ensure that it was gender neutral. It can also be found on our website [click here](#).

As a school, we have worked really hard on improving the standards of dress for our students, the vast majority of our students look incredibly smart and wear their uniform with pride. Our students are often praised for their uniform and it has supported our much-improved image in the school community. I am not prepared to lower this expectation, and neither should you.

In recent weeks we have had to speak to a number of students about the length of their skirts. If your child is choosing to wear a school skirt, then can I please ask that you check the length to be confident that it falls below the knee. If the skirt needs to be replaced and this is going to present a financial difficulty, then please do contact us, as with any uniform issues that you may require support with.



Item	Details
Skirt & Tailored Trousers	The only skirt permitted is the school colour kilt and should be worn below the knee. Trousers should be tailored black trousers (not leggings)
Blazer	Plain black blazer with the school badge should be worn at all times
Shirt / Blouse	Traditional plain white cotton tie collar shirt/blouse.
Tie	School tie with the house emblem should be worn at all times
Jumper	The jumper is an optional item, however the only jumper that can be worn is the school jumper with the school badge
Shoes	Plain black leather style shoes. Designer shoes with emblems are not permitted.
Tights and socks	Tights should be plain black or tan with no patterns. Socks should be black or white worn at the ankle.
Jewellery	A single stud in each ear is permitted and a wrist watch. No other jewellery is permitted including braid jewellery.
Make up	Discreet natural makeup is a privilege for Year 10 and 11 students. False unnatural eyelash extensions are not permitted
Nails	Nail extensions, acrylics or colours are not permitted. Nails should be kept at a reasonable length for health and safety reasons.
Coats	Plain coats with no logos are permitted. Tracksuit tops are not permitted.
Bags	School bags must be big enough to hold books and equipment needed for the school day. Bags with big logos or expensive designer bags are not encouraged in our school.
Cultural or religious headwear	Should be navy blue, black or white

Another issue we have had to deal with this year has been facial piercings. Please note that students can only wear a single stud in each ear. We will not permit students to wear other studs or rings. A plaster over them is not acceptable. Please ensure that if you allow your child to have additional piercings, it is done in plenty of time before they return to school and can be removed.



The next table below sets out our expectations for [uniform for students in Year 12 and 13.](#)

Item	Details
Suit - it may be trouser or skirt suit	Should be blue, black or grey. Shorts and leggings are not permitted. Skirt length and style should be professional and formal.
Dress Suit	Should be blue, black or grey and must be paired with a suit jacket
Shirt/Blouse/Top	With sleeves.
Tie	Ties are a compulsory part of the dress code for male students and are permitted to be worn by female students.
Jumpers/cardigans	Should be blue, black or grey but should not be worn in place of a suit jacket. Hoodies or sweatshirts are not permitted.
Shoes	Should be leather style and plain. Trainers are not permitted
Coats	Plain coats with no logos are permitted. Tracksuit tops are not permitted.
Lanyards	Identification and house coloured lanyard must be worn at all times
Jewellery	A necklace, wrist watch and earrings are permitted. Facial piercings are not permitted.
Makeup	Subtle, natural makeup is permitted
Nails	Nails should be kept at a reasonable length for health and safety reasons. Subtle colours are permitted.
Cultural or religious headwear	Should be navy blue, black or white
Hair	Extreme hairstyles or colour are not acceptable. If colour is being used on hair it must be a natural colour. (Colours such as blue, red, purple etc. are not acceptable).

For all year groups, our expectations of hairstyles remain the same. Extreme hairstyles or colour are not acceptable. If colour is being used on hair it must be a natural colour. (Colours such as blue, red, purple etc. are not acceptable). Students should not have their hair shaved below a number two and there should not be any patterns shaved into the hair. Hair bands should be discreet and black or blue in colour.

Our school champions the right of staff and students to embrace all Afro-hairstyles. We acknowledge that Afro-textured hair is an important part of our Black staff and students' racial, ethnic, cultural, and religious identities and requires specific styling for hair health and maintenance. We welcome Afro-textured hair worn in all styles including, but not limited to, afros, locs, twists, braids, cornrows, fades, hair straightened through the application of heat or chemicals, weaves, wigs, headscarves, and wraps. Braiding jewellery/accessories are not permitted including but not limited to metal hair cuffs and coloured string wrapped around the braids. If this is due to cultural or religious reasons, please feel free to refer



to [Roding Valley High School: Student Behaviour and Expectations Policy](#) Page 23 or talk to a member of our team to discuss flexibility.

At this school, we recognise and celebrate our staff and students' identities. We are a community built on an ethos of equality and respect where hair texture and style have no bearing on anyone's ability to succeed

Punctuality

We have the highest expectations of all our students at Roding Valley. One of the things we insist upon is good punctuality to school in the morning and individual lessons throughout the day. All lessons start with a "do it now" task which is underway as soon as students arrive to the classroom. It is waiting for them when they arrive to ensure that learning begins immediately and students are able to make the most progress possible.

All staff make allowances for students moving across the school to different lessons in different parts of the school. There are no classrooms that should take any longer than about 3 minutes to travel between, and we allow students approximately 5 minutes flexibility before they are classed as late.

This poor punctuality to lessons will not only be affecting their own progress but also the progress of others when they arrive late and disrupt the lesson which has already started without them.

Our protocol for students who are arriving late to lessons is to issue them with a Positive Action for Learning 1 when they arrive late, due to the disruption this causes. You can read more about our Positive Action for Learning (PAL) system in our Student Behaviour and Expectations Policy [here](#). We monitor punctuality to lessons very closely and there are sanctions imposed for students who do not get this right; We operate a sliding scale of timed detentions on a Friday after school, dependant on the number of times your child is late to lessons. You will be informed if your son or daughter is required to attend this detention via text message by the end of the day on Thursday.

If your child is late to school in the morning, they do a 20-minute lunch detention the same day. This will escalate to the Headteacher's 100-minute detention on a Friday if they fail to attend.

The ultimate detention sanction is the Friday Headteacher's 100-minute detention, and failure to attend can result in a fixed-term suspension.



Attendance

We have a minimum expectation of 96% attendance across the academic year. Parents will hopefully be aware of the Government's recent publication insisting that schools' attendance should return to pre-pandemic levels. You can read more about the guidance [here](#). As you will be aware from the Headteacher's bulletin, we have recently amended our attendance policy.

If your child's attendance falls below 96%, you should expect to hear from us. Please recognise that in the first half term, 3 and a half days absent will actually force their attendance below 90% and class your child as a persistently absent student. Whilst we appreciate that children do get ill from time to time and there may be genuine reasons for students to be absent from school, we have a responsibility to make you aware of our concerns. As part of our commitment of continuing to improve the attainment and progress of our students we monitor student attendance on a weekly basis. During our regular monitoring we identify any students whose attendance causes concern. We then issue a letter to register our concern with parents/carers. We have always worked in this way, and have seen exceptional student outcomes as a result of tackling any attendance issues at the earliest opportunity.

Equipment

All students should have all the equipment they need for their lessons at all times. We are happy to provide students in receipt of Free School Meals with new equipment. Part of the compulsory equipment is a reading book. All students in Year 7, 8 and 9 spend at least 20 minutes a day reading as part of our "Drop Everything And Read" (DEAR Time) campaign to continue to drive up literacy standards. All students should have a reading book with them at all times. Your son/daughter will also need the basic classroom equipment with them at all times; a black pen, green pen, highlighters, ruler, rubber and pencil. They also require a calculator and maths set.

Revision & Study over the Summer Holidays

Over the Summer break, your child may wish to engage in some revision & study to prepare themselves for the next academic year. They will all have access to Google Classroom, where they can still access previous lesson materials & assignments. These subject Google classrooms will also contain links to helpful revision documents & websites.

All students also have access to our fantastic, bespoke revision & study microsites. To access these sites that have been put together by our teachers, please click on the link



below. This will take you to our webpage, where you can then select the relevant microsite for your child's age group:

<https://rodingvalley.net/high-school/revision-resources/>

We also have put together subject reading lists for every subject studied at RVHS. If you would like to access these reading lists, please click on the link below:

<https://rodingvalley.net/high-school/reading-lists/>

Safeguarding in the local community - Station area and Sainsburys

Please can I ask for parents' support in ensuring that your child travels straight home at the end of the school day in September. It is not a safe place for young people to be hanging around the station area, we are aware of numerous police activities and plain clothes operations. Also, meeting outside Sainsburys, whilst not unsafe, is not conducive to a positive image of our students in the local community. I can only ever reiterate that the vast majority of our students behave very respectfully whilst out in the community but there are a few who have on occasions let us down. Those who do bring the school into disrepute, should expect to be sanctioned under our [Student Behaviour and Expectations Policy](#).

We have received the following safety message from Essex Police: [Campaign to combat Cannabis edibles](#). Please take some time to look at this and understand the dangers.

Essex Police are warning about the continued and increased involvement of young people in County Lines activity - please see attached [help link](#)

Results days

Year 13 will be able to collect their results on **Thursday 18th August** from 8.00 am; Year 11 will be able to collect their results on **Thursday 25th August** from 8.00 am. Students will enter via the Brook Road Gate and join alphabetical queues where they can collect their results.



The Year Progress Leader Teams for 2022-23 are:

Your first point of contact with any concerns should be your child's Academic Mentor.

Y7: Prog. Lead. - Miss Reed		Y8: Prog. Lead. – Mr Ryan	
Argon	Mr M Stewart	Argon	Mr P Baidoo
Beryllium	Ms M Barclay	Beryllium	Ms S Langlet
Carbon	Ms H Barron	Carbon	Mr P Melvin
Fluorine	Ms A Joseph	Fluorine	Ms A Abbott
Hydrogen	Mr C Ifrim	Lithium	Mr K Ohemeng
Lithium	Mr C Carta	Magnesium	Ms C Stringer
Magnesium	Mr S Maagbe	Neon	Mr A Sibanda
Neon	Ms C Aston/ Ms R Speechia	Oxygen	Mr J Allen
Oxygen	Mr G Frary		

Y9: Prog. Lead. – Miss Fazakerley		Y10: Prog. Lead – Mr Dobson	
Argon	Ms S Kalair	Argon	Ms L Walker/ Ms M Cain
Beryllium	Mr J Savage	Beryllium	Ms C Thompson
Carbon	Mr B Patel	Carbon	Mr C Allen
Fluorine	Mr R Wilson	Fluorine	Ms C Woods
Lithium	Ms A Guidi/ Ms K Lasfer	Lithium	Mr M Huxford
Magnesium	Ms E Smith	Magnesium	Mr C Perera
Neon	Ms V Bedi	Neon	Ms T Pinches
Oxygen	Ms S Mitchell	Oxygen	Mr H Farrell



Y11: Prog.Lead. – Mr Fletcher	
Argon	Mrs T Di Ilio
Beryllium	Ms C Bates
Carbon	Mr R Jennings
Fluorine	Mr M Dennis
Hydrogen	Mr A Jones
Lithium	Mr S S Rahman
Magnesium	Mr S Rahman
Neon	Mr Z Quershi
Oxygen	Ms L Charlton/ Mr M Saghir

Miss Edwards will continue to work closely with her current year group but will be supporting all the Year Progress Leaders in her newly promoted role on the Extended Leadership Team of the school.

Y12 - Ms Wheaton		Y13 - Ms Wheaton	
Q	Ms C Bleakley	Q	Mr O Hussain
R	Ms T Di Ilio	R	Mr O Dickinson
S	Mr J Patel	S	Ms D Harris
T	Mr L Jones	T	Ms E Gregori
U	Ms F Hodges	U	Mr M Cocker
V	Ms M Richards	V	Ms C Taylor/Mr A Goodall

Mr Warry will also continue to work with Year 12 and 13 in the role of Assistant Director of Sixth Form.

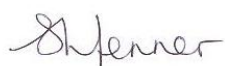
You will see how busy we have continued to be in the 'bumper' edition of the Parent Bulletin which will go out later this week. We are really looking forward to the Celebration Assemblies on Friday, where we will celebrate a huge number of student successes.

Finally, I would like to welcome our new Year 6/7 parents and carers who are also receiving this communication.

Wishing everyone in our school community a very good summer break.



Yours faithfully



Sharon Jenner
Headteacher

House	Charity they are fundraising for	House	Charity they are fundraising for
