

15th October 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians

It has been an incredibly busy fortnight since my last update. Following our adapted Open Evening on Thursday 30th September 2021, we have been able to allow prospective Year 7 students and their families to tour the school as part of bookable open mornings. I would particularly like to thank our Year 9 ambassadors for volunteering to show families around the school; they are a real credit to the school. Students have also received a number of engaging assemblies over the past two weeks. All students have heard Rhys, 9W, describing how he turned his negative experience of receiving online abuse due to his disability into a positive experience of raising thousands for Scope and being added to the team sheet for Fulham FC. We have also acknowledged Black History Month through assemblies led by Winta and James, our Equality and Diversity Student Leaders. Year 8 and Year 9 students also received an informative talk from PC Claire Boyle, our Safer Schools Officer, who spoke candidly about knife crime and the importance of keeping yourself safe.

COVID-19

Sadly we are seeing case numbers rise, both locally and nationally, and this is also the case within the school. We are regularly reviewing our control measures and I will write to families if we need to make significant changes. I would like to remind families that, should your child develop any of the main symptoms of COVID-19 (a high temperature (feeling hot to touch on the chest/back); a new, continuous cough (coughing a lot for more than an hour, or three or more coughing episodes in 24 hours); a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste), your child must self-isolate and request a PCR test immediately (click [here](#) to book a PCR test). Please indicate when you contact the school to inform us of your child's absence if they have one of these symptoms, and please share with us the PCR result.

Please click [here](#) to read the letter sent last week regarding the COVID-19 vaccinations which will be offered by the School-Age Immunisation Service (SAIS) on Monday 18th October 2021 for students in Years 7, 10, 11, 12 & 13, and Tuesday 19th October 2021 for students in Years 8-9. Please ensure your child brings a mask to school and wears either a short-sleeved shirt or their PE top on the day of their vaccination.

Student behaviour

We are very clear that we have exceptionally high standards for behaviour at Ruislip High School, and this is outlined in our behaviour policy. Our policy is being updated and will include changes recently made by the Department for Education to terminology in relation to exclusions. Fixed term exclusions will now be referred to as suspensions; the term permanent exclusions remains unchanged.

In order to ensure the safety of our community, we regularly work with the police, including inviting police officers in to speak to our students and to hold random searches of students. I would like to remind parents/guardians that the following items are banned at Ruislip High School:

- Hoodies, denim jackets, hats or other items of non-uniform clothing;
- Jewellery, including rings (other than one small stud in the bottom of each ear lobe; these should be a tiny plain silver or gold type stud);
- Tipp-ex or any other flammable liquid;
- Make up;

- Chewing gum;
- Sharpeners or sharp scissors;
- Smoking-related articles;
- Aerosols, perfumes or body sprays.

Should students be found with these items at any time, they will be disposed of. I would also like to remind parents and guardians that smoking is banned, and that students found in possession of items related to smoking will face a high-level sanction. This includes vaping or using e-cigarettes. Students who are in possession of such items will face additional random searches.

We have also noticed that some students have referred to content they have watched on platforms such as Netflix which is inappropriate for their age. Please discuss with your child what they are watching and check that their viewing is age-appropriate.

Year 9 parents' evening and Year 11 information evening

I would like to remind parents and guardians of Year 11 students that the Success in 2022 information evening will take place remotely on Tuesday 19th October 2021 6-7pm. Please click [here](#) for more information; please ensure you register for the event before it begins.

Year 9 parents' evening will take place on Thursday 21st October 2021 using SchoolCloud. Please click [here](#) for the letter sent to parents of Year 9 students.

Finally, I would like to thank parents/guardians for your continued support and wish all of our community a restful weekend.

Yours sincerely



Gareth Davies
Headteacher