

16th September 2022

Dear Parents/Guardians

I am writing at the end of the second week of the academic year and I would like to thank families for the support with ensuring the year has started so positively. Students in all years have impressed school staff with their attitudes to learning, high standards of appearance and conduct around school.

### **Above and Beyond**

I am delighted to share with parents/guardians the information about the wide range of extra-curricular opportunities that allows students to go Above & Beyond (click [here](#)). I would urge parents/guardians to sign up for the clubs that students are interested in as soon as possible as many clubs have limited spaces. I visited the Year 7 assembly this morning and it was lovely to see the enthusiastic response from students, particularly when they were introduced to one of the animals from the Responsible Pet Owners club!

### **Sustainability**

Should parents/guardians have any uniform that is no longer required or no longer fits your child, please donate this to Ms Stoodley, Pastoral Director, via the main school office. We are very keen to build on our second hand uniform shop at the school both to improve sustainability and to support families during the ongoing cost of living crisis. We are also looking into including the option for students to swap items they have outgrown for new items. I will update parents/guardians when there is sufficient quantity for this to begin.

I would also like to give parents/guardians advanced notice that Cucina will no longer sell single-use plastic bottles after October half term as part of the school's sustainability drive. Please ensure your child has a reusable water bottle so that they are able to remain hydrated during the school day.

### **Open Evening Thursday 29th September and late start Friday 30th September**

Our Year 6 open evening will take place on Thursday 29th September 2022 and a significant number of students have already volunteered to support the event. There is a late start on Friday 30th September 2022; students must arrive at school by 11.10am. Should you require your child to arrive at the usual time on Friday 30th September 2022, please contact your child's Head of Year via the main school office.

### **Equalities**

I am pleased to share with families that we are working with EqualiTeach CIC on a year-long project entitled 'Equally Safe'. The project is designed to support schools to further promote equality, diversity and inclusion. More information about EqualiTeach can be found at: [www.equaliteach.co.uk](http://www.equaliteach.co.uk). In order to ensure the project is successful, I would appreciate parents completing the questionnaire (click [here](#)) about how well you feel the school currently promotes equality and tackles identity-based bullying. Your answers will inform our action plan for the programme. I would like to thank Mrs Poddar, EDI Co-ordinator, for organising this project.

## Safeguarding

All staff are committed to ensuring Ruislip High School is a safe learning environment. Along with other local schools, Ruislip High School intends to continue to use knife arches and drug detection dogs, in conjunction with the Metropolitan Police, as a preventative measure as well as a reminder that the school needs to be free from weapons and illegal drugs. I would like to reassure parents and students that this is routine practice rather than a response to genuine concerns. I would also like to take this opportunity to assure parents that students found in possession of weapons and/or illegal drugs will be considered for permanent exclusion.

I would like to remind parents/guardians of the importance of discussing road safety with your child. There was an unfortunate incident yesterday afternoon where one of our students was hurt while crossing the road. I would ask any parents/guardians who do have to drive to collect their children to drive extremely carefully at the beginning and end of each day, and also ask parents/guardians to reinforce the importance of road safety with your child.

Finally, I would like to remind families that the school will be closed on Monday 19th September 2022 for the public holiday for the state funeral of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. I hope that all families have a peaceful weekend and we look forward to welcoming students back on Tuesday 20th September 2022.

Yours sincerely



Gareth Davies  
Headteacher