

23rd September 2022

Dear Parents/Guardians

I had the pleasure this week of attending two events for students and parents/guardians. The Success at KS4 evening for Year 10 was so well attended we ran out of space in the hall and the Success in Year 13 evening was an equally positive event. I know parents/guardians in the year groups, and those in Year 12 following the Success in the Sixth Form event last week, are being asked to provide feedback. It was wonderful to be able to invite parents/guardians into the building again for such events and I know that particular highlights were the contributions from students. Sonia and Dhiren in Year 12 spoke at the Year 10 event to share their experiences of studying for and sitting GCSEs and Level 2 BTECs, and Ramez, Hannah and Yasmin spoke at the Year 12 event last week about the importance of forming good habits, including balancing school work and wider experiences. I know staff, students and parents/guardians were particularly impressed with the messages they heard from students, who are the voice of experience for their younger peers.

### **Open Evening - Thursday 29th September 2022 - early finish and late start**

The school's Open Evening for prospective parents will take place on Thursday 29th September 2022 and is the opportunity for Year 6 parents to see the school before making the important decision regarding their child's secondary school placement. I am delighted that a significant number of students have volunteered to support with tours for prospective parents or to support in curriculum areas both during the evening and in preparation for the event.

In order to allow time for the preparation for the evening and to ensure that staff and the students who are supporting the evening have a break before the event begins at 4.30pm, the day will end slightly earlier than usual for students in KS4 and KS5. School will close at 2.45pm for all students on Thursday 29th September 2022; this means that there is no tutorial time for Year 10-13 students on this day.

There is also a late start the following morning: the school will open at 10:55am and all students must be in school for the start of Period 3. Any student arriving after 11.10am will be marked as late. This late start is to allow staff to ensure that the adjustments to classrooms and elsewhere are tidied ready for lessons to start. I am sorry that earlier communications have been slightly contradictory regarding the precise start time for Friday morning.

### **Coffee morning - sensory processing - Friday 14th October 2022 from 10am-11am**

Mrs Ware, SENCO, has arranged for Ms Geraldine Pinnock, Occupational Therapist, to lead an informal discussion on Friday 14th October 2022 from 10am-11am for parents of students with special educational needs who are interested in finding out more about sensory processing. Please click [here](#) to complete the google form to register your place.

### **Above & Beyond - extra-curricular clubs and opportunities**

I know that large numbers of students have already signed up for a number of our extra-curricular opportunities (click [here](#) for the Above & Beyond booklet that I shared with parents last week). I would like to remind parents/guardians that today is the deadline to register for clubs. Whilst late applications will be considered, many of our clubs are very popular and admittance will be given on a first-come, first-served basis.

### **Parent Voice meeting - Tuesday 27th September 2022**

I would like to take this opportunity to echo Ms Ohana's earlier invitation to our first Parent Voice meeting of the academic year. The Parent Voice group meets once a half term and is an opportunity for parents/guardians to voice opinions regarding various aspects of school life. We have found a hybrid model has worked well in recent years with a combination of online and in person meetings throughout the year. The first meeting will take place on Tuesday 27th September 2022 from 6pm-7pm via Zoom and I would particularly like to encourage parents of Year 7 students who are new to the school to join the group. If you would like to join the Parent Voice group and attend the meeting, please confirm your attendance by Monday 26th September 2022 via the school office: [office@ruisliphigh.org.uk](mailto:office@ruisliphigh.org.uk) and a link will be sent to you.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to wish the entire school community a restful weekend.

Yours sincerely



Gareth Davies  
Headteacher