

6th September 2024

Dear Parents/Guardians

I would like to welcome all of our school community back to a new school year. I hope that all of our families had a good summer, and it has been a delight to welcome students to the school community this week. I would particularly like to welcome our new Year 7 students and families and those joining us in the Sixth Form for the first time. I would also like to congratulate, once again, our students who received examination results last month. As I shared with students during assembly this week, students at Ruislip High School again attained excellent grades and I am sure their achievements will inspire and encourage our current students. Please click [here](#) for more information about the results and other 'good news' stories from the summer.

It was a particularly busy summer period at the school, and we were delighted to welcome over 100 new Year 7 students last week as part of our summer school, and the students enjoyed taking part in lessons and activities to support their transition to secondary school. We also had two residential visits take place over the summer: our sixth form students took part in a conservation project in South Africa, while we also had a group of Ruislip High School performers take part in the Edinburgh Fringe Festival. There will be more details on both of these wonderful student experiences in next week's parent bulletin.

### Partnership and communication

Following on from the above point, I would like to start the new academic year by stressing my belief that education is most successful when there is partnership between the school, students and parents/guardians, and regular communication is a vital part of this. Each week, parents/guardians will either receive the parent bulletin or the update from me on a rolling programme. Please do take the time to read these updates and bulletins, as they provide useful information and outline key events. I would also like to remind parents/guardians to check ClassCharts, which is our method of communication, and to report all absences on ClassCharts. Please click [here](#) for a guide to ClassCharts for parents and [here](#) for a guide on reporting absences.

At Ruislip High School, we also have a social media presence, and you may wish to follow Ruislip High School on our social media accounts. We can be found on Instagram: @ruislip\_high\_official and Twitter/X: @RuislipHigh. I appreciate that many parents join social media groups such as WhatsApp to share information or seek advice. However, I would urge parents/guardians to contact the school directly with any specific concerns or questions. We always welcome parental feedback and invite parents/guardians to be part of our Parent Voice and/or Friends of Ruislip High groups. More information will be shared regarding both groups next week.

### Traffic congestion on Sidmouth Drive

The weather greeting us back to the start of term this year has certainly not matched the scorching temperatures of last year, and the inclement weather at the end of the school day yesterday led to particularly challenging conditions on Sidmouth Drive. I recognise that parent/guardians of new Year 7 students, in particular, are keen to ensure their children arrive to and from school safely. However, I kindly ask that parents not to drop their children off on Sidmouth Drive as this causes both traffic congestion and issues for students trying to cross the road. Should parents/guardians need to drop students at school, please park in the public car park opposite the school. With a school of over thirteen hundred students the more students who arrive on foot, the better.

## Uniform

I have received numerous compliments from new teaching staff and members of the public regarding how smart and impressive our students looked on their return to school. I believe strongly that first impressions are important, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank parents/guardians for their ongoing support in maintaining our high expectations with regard to school uniform. Should you have any concerns regarding uniform, please do not hesitate to contact Ms Stoodley on [office@ruisliphigh.org.uk](mailto:office@ruisliphigh.org.uk), or alternatively, click on [this link](#) to our uniform booklet.

## Open Evening Thursday 26th September and late start Friday 27th September


Our Year 6 Open Evening will take place on Thursday 26th September 2024. Further information will be sent out in the coming weeks. However, I want to emphasise to parents that there will be a late start on Friday 27th September 2024; students must arrive at school by 11:10am. Should you require your child to arrive at the usual time on Friday 27th September 2024, please contact your child's Head of Year via the main school office.

## Vanguard Learning Trust

At Ruislip High School, we are proud to be part of the Vanguard Learning Trust and to share the vision our schools have for outstanding, inclusive education. I would like to share a letter from Peter Davies, Chair of Trustees, and Dr Martina Lecky, Chief Executive Officer, regarding Oak Farm Primary School's associate membership of our Trust. A link to the letter can be found [here](#).

Finally, I would like to wish all members of the school community a peaceful weekend. It has been a really positive first week, and I look forward to welcoming our students back on Monday.

Yours sincerely



Gareth Davies  
Headteacher