

13th September 2022

Dear Parents/Guardians

Re: Welcome to Year 8

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself formally as Head of Year 8. I am immensely excited about the year ahead, and look forward to working with this hard-working and positive group of young people.

Year 8 is a fundamental year in your child's education. It is a year full of challenge, and no longer are these students the youngest in school; as such, the expectations placed upon them are that little bit higher. I hope you have had a conversation with your child about their first week, and about the assembly I gave where I spoke about my priorities for the year.

I made a promise to Year 8: that I would never be disappointed with their best. No one can give more than 100% effort. I also made it clear that I will accept nothing less. I hope that this is a principle we can agree on, and that this shared value is one we can use as a team to build on this year.

To get the best out of every opportunity means that students need to be here to take them. Attendance is very important to us at Ruislip High School. Of course, if a student is genuinely too ill to be in school, we want them to stay at home to rest and recover. However, it is important to recognise that we may not feel our best all of the time but students should strive to have the self discipline and resilience to ensure that they are in school and learning. We expect students to have an attendance record of at least 97% across the year. If, for any reason, your child is unable to attend school, we ask that you send a message on Class Charts each day that they are absent so that we are able to authorise their absence.

Class Charts will be our main method of communicating with parents. This is where you will receive letters like this as well as key information about your child. With the Class Charts app you can see what rewards or sanctions your child has received during the day as well as their attendance percentage. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any issues with the app.

At Ruislip High School we like to reward students who embody the school values. We run two reward trips every year which students are always keen to go on. The criteria for the trips are: minimum 90% attendance (as we take covid into account), fewer than three warnings, and no higher level sanctions. I am hopeful that Year 8 will have the highest number of students eligible for the reward trips this year.

It is vital that families and Ruislip High School work together in partnership. The best way to contact a member of staff is to call the main office or send an email to office@ruisliphigh.org.uk with the member of staff's name in the subject line.

Students will be taught a wide curriculum during their time at Ruislip High School. Please click [here](#) to see an overview of the Year 8 curriculum for the 2022/23 academic year.

I would like to take this opportunity to draw your attention to our Parents' Evening, which this academic year will be on Thursday 9th February 2023.

I am excited about what this year will bring. This is a year in which students will need to adhere to our school values, and remember that the most important thing above all is that they maintain their very best effort in all things, and focus on hard work rather than outcomes.

Yours sincerely



Mr Randall
Head of Year 8