

6th September 2022

Dear Parents/Guardians

**Re: Welcome to Year 10**

I would like to take the opportunity to introduce myself as the new Head of Year 10. I know already that this is going to be an exciting year full of opportunities and I wanted to provide you with key dates, expectations for the year and other important information.

Year 10 is a significant year in a student's education, as they progress from Key Stage 3 to Key Stage 4 and the start of the majority of their GCSE courses. I cannot stress highly enough how quickly their final examinations will arrive in May and June of 2024. Every lesson between now and the summer of 2024 counts towards their grade, whether that is through coursework or content required for the exam. Furthermore, the end of Year 10 will see students sit their first public examination as they will sit their GCSE Citizenship exam in June 2023 and will receive their results in August. As a result, it is important that every student meets our expectations in order to reach their full potential. My expectations for the year group are:

Students should aspire to achieve 100% attendance every week  
All students try their best, even when facing challenges  
Respect each other and all members of staff at school  
Take on new opportunities beyond the classroom

The Year 10 and pastoral team will be working closely with students to ensure that every student reaches their potential at Ruislip High School. In order to help your child reach their potential please find the link attached that outlines the curriculum for every subject in Year 10. Please [click here](#) for the link.

Attendance is very important to us at Ruislip High School. To reach their full potential means that every student needs to attend school every day and to be in every lesson. 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 ClassCharts each day that they are absent so that we are able to have an understanding of the well being of our students.

ClassCharts will be our main method of communicating with parents. With the ClassCharts 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 the school if you have any issues with the app.

Behaviour takes on an added significance now that your child will begin their GCSE courses. In order for them to achieve their full potential they need to fully apply themselves in every lesson. At Ruislip High School we pride ourselves on high expectations for every student both inside and outside of the classroom with regards to behaviour. Behaviour that does not meet our expectations or is having a detrimental impact upon the learning of the other students will be sanctioned accordingly and this could mean your child being out of circulation, missing out on being taught by a specialist teacher in that subject. Students and parents are happy with the positive learning environment this creates.

Another area that I would like to highlight is school uniforms. All students are expected to wear the correct school uniform every day along with appropriate school shoes. This includes skirts being worn to the knee and not being rolled or tied at the back. Students are allowed to have one small stud in the bottom of each ear lobe; these should be a tiny plain silver or gold stud. No rings, bracelets or necklaces are permitted. Make-up, including colour in eyebrows, tinted/false eyelashes, tinted moisturiser, fake tan or concealer are not allowed.

I also want to take this opportunity to stress the importance that your child goes straight home once the school day has finished. This year the school day will finish at 15:10pm and therefore could you remind your child that they should make their way straight home. Students who do not go home straight away could face sanctions.

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 hope we will have a high number of students eligible for the reward trips this year.

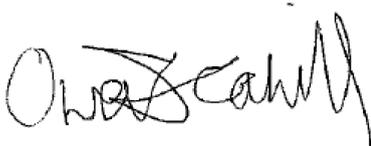
We run a number of events across the academic year and will send more information about individual events throughout the year. I have included some key events for Year 10 and dates below so that you can get them into your calendars early.

Tuesday 20th September 2022: Key Stage 4 Parents 6-7pm

Thursday 12th January 2023: Year 10 Parents Evening 4.30pm-7pm

I am excited about what this year will bring as students start their journey towards taking their GCSE examination in the summer 2024 and achieving their full potential.

Yours sincerely,



Mr Cahill  
Head of Year 10