

Issue #1 - 6th September 2024

Message from the Principal

Welcome back to a new academic year!

It has been wonderful to see our students return after the summer break looking so smart and ready to learn. On Tuesday, it was a pleasure to welcome both our new Year 7 students for their first day and previous and new students joining Rivers' Sixth Form.



I am delighted to welcome our new staff who have joined us for this academic year:

Mr Clark, Maths Teacher Mr Lyu, Maths Teacher Ms Scott, English Teacher & Head of Year 8 Ms Tovey, SENDCo Ms Etherton, Food Technology Teacher Ms Owen, SSA Ms Kelleher, LSA Ms Cleveland, LSA

They are a great addition to our team and, along with our existing staff, are looking forward to working with our students and supporting you as parents/carers to give our Rivers students the best outcomes during this academic year. I am sure you will join me in welcoming them to the Ormiston Rivers' Community.

During the summer we had the pleasure of seeing our Year 11 and Year 13 students collecting their GCSE and A Level results and to see them receiving such well-deserved and hard-earned qualifications. There were some amazing outcomes and we are very proud of them all.

It has been fantastic to see that our staff have already awarded over 28,000 positive merit points to our students during the first week of the new term. This reflects our students' positive behaviour for learning and shows that they are already putting into practice our new academy CARE values of **Community, Ambition, Respect, Resilience & Excellence**:

"To participate and contribute positively to our school and local **Community**, have **Ambition** for ourselves, others and the school, **Respect** ourselves and others and be **Resilient** in the face of challenge and aim for **Excellence** in all that we do."

I wish you a restful weekend and look forward to seeing our students on Monday.

Jo Williams, Principal



Rewards Update

Our rewards system has been updated. Key rewards introduced to supplement our rewards system this year include:

- Termly attendance draw each week that a student has 100% attendance they gain an entry into the termly draw for a £50 Just eat voucher.
- Teacher hero of the week recognising a student that has shown significant effort to progress their learning that week. This gains 25 positive points.
- PPA certificate scheme to recognise students achievements throughout the year more details to follow in the coming weeks.
- Club zero reward a termly reward for any student who has not been given any negative behaviour points.
- Community kindness tickets- staff and visitors will award a golden ticket for acts of kindness seen around the academy. The tickets will go into a termly prize draw.
- Yearly awards evening allowing us as a community to celebrate our students' success

Disruption Free Learning Update

The system has had some small changes following consultation with parents, students and staff:

The relocation will now be to departmental relocation rooms in the first instance to allow the continuation of learning in the subject, and to ensure restorative actions are taken to support learning in that subject moving forward.

If a student is relocated to the department relocation room they will stay there for the rest of that lesson, and will be set a department detention for 10 minutes at break or lunch time through Go4Schools.

If a student fails to attend the department detention or refuses department relocation or truants a lesson, they will be set a Head of Department detention. <u>This detention is for a whole break</u> <u>time. Students will be allowed to eat and drink in this detention but must bring their own</u> <u>food/drink from home for this purpose</u>. Notification will be given on Go4Schools the day before.

We are also reintroducing SLT detention on Mondays and Thursdays. This detention is for one hour after school. Late buses are in place to support this. Students will be placed in SLT detention if they fail to attend a Head of department detention, or as part of a sanction for a serious incident or repeated relocations/truancies. Notification will be given the day before on Go4Schools and by text message.



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Dates for your Diary

Thursday 12 September 2024 5pm-8pm ORA Open Evening

Wednesday 25 September 2024 @ 3.30pm Year 7 Parents Meeting with Form Tutors

Thursday 26 September 2024 @ 7pm E-Safety Parents Meeting

Tuesday 1 October 2024 6pm-8pm ORA Rivers Sixth Form Open Evening

Parents Evenings 2024-25

Year 7 (Meet the tutor) - 25 September 2024 Year 11 - 4 December 2024 Sixth Form (Yr 12 & 13) - 16 December 2024 Year 10 - 21 January 2025 Year 9 - 13 February 2025 Year 9 - 13 February 2025 Year 11 Academic - 20 March 2025 Year 8 - 31 March 2025 Year 7 - 6 May 2025

Examinations Calendar

Below is the full list of examinations taking place throughout the 24-25 academic year. All results will be available on go4schools.com for parents, carers and students. A personalised timetable will be handed out to students prior to PPE, GCSE, AS and A level examinations. ALL RESULTS FOUND ON www.Go4Schools.com



YEAR GROUP	EXAM TYPE	w/c DATE	RESULTS	FURTHER INFO
7	GL Assessment	Sept 9th 2024	N/A	Cognitive Ability Test (CATS) Reading Age (NGRT), Progress Tests in English Maths and Science
8910	NGRT	Sept 16th 2024	N/A	Reading Age (NGRT)
All Year Groups	In class assessment	Half term 1	Nov 15th 2024	Currently Working at grade for all year groups. End of course predictions for Y10 Y11 Y12 & Y13
11	PPE	Nov 4th 2024	Dec 2 nd 2024	Mock examinations in all subjects that require a written element
13	PPE	Nov 18th 2024	Dec 16th 2024	Mock examinations in all subjects that require a written element
7 8 9 10 12	In class assessment	Half Term 2	Jan 17th 2025	Currently Working at grade for all year groups. End of course predictions for Y10 Y11 Y12 & Y13
All Year Groups	In class assessment	Half term 3	March 7th 2025	Currently Working at grade for all year groups. End of course predictions for Y10 Y11 Y12 & Y13
13	PPE	Feb 3 rd	March 10th 2025	Mock examinations in all subjects that require a written element
11	PPE	Feb 10th	March 17th 2025	Mock examinations in all subjects that require a written element
All Year Groups	In class assessment	Half Term 4	May 2 nd 2025	Currently Working at grade for all year groups. End of course predictions for Y10 Y11 Y12 & Y13
All Year Groups	In class assessment	Half Term 5	Jun 13th 2025	Currently Working at grade for all year groups. End of course predictions for Y10 Y11 Y12 & Y13
89	GL Assessment	April 28th	N/A	Progress Tests in English Maths and Science (Y9 only)
12 13	A Level & L3 Vocational	May 5 th	Aug 14th 2025	Final AS & A Level examinations – Not available on Go4schools
11	GCSE and L2 Vocational	May 12 [≞]	Aug 21st 2025	Final GCSE examinations - Not available on Go4schools
12	PPE	Jun 23 rd 2025	July 24th 2025	Mock examinations in all subjects that require a written element
10	PPE	Jun 30th 2025	July 24th 2025	Mock examinations B1 and B2 subjects
7	GL Assessment	July 7th 2024	N/A	Progress Tests in English and Maths
All Year Groups	In class assessment	Half Term 6	May 2nd 2025	Currently Working at grade for all year groups. End of course predictions for Y10 & Y12

In addition to the above some vocational examinations will also take place at different points in the year. Subject leads will make all pupils aware once assessment windows have been confirmed

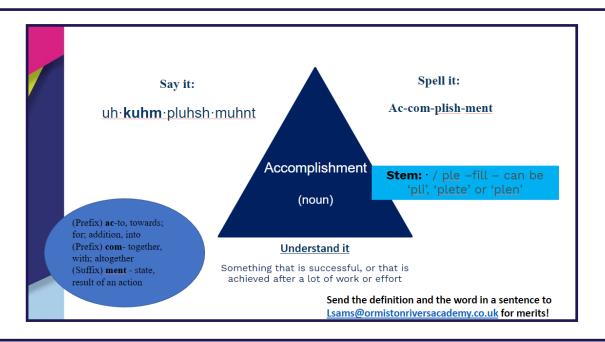
PARENTS EVENINGS	PARENTS EVENINGS DATE		DATE
Year 7 Settling in Evening (Meet the tutor)	September 25th 2024	Year 7	July 18th 2025
Year 7	May 6th 2025	Year 8	July 18th 2025
Year 8	March 31st 2025	Year 9	July 18 th 2025
Year 9	February 13th 2025	Year 10	July 18th 2025
Year 10	January 21st 2025	Year 11	January 24th 2025
Year 11	December 4th 2024	Year 12 & Year 13	January 24th 2025
Y11 Academic Support	March 20th 2025		
Year 12 & Year 13	December 16th 2024		



One of the literacy challenges we run weekly is "Word of the Week" where students are invited to use the word in a sentence and submit it in order to receive merit points.

The WOTW for next week is "Accomplishment".

Why not have a go?



News from the Performing Arts Department:

School Show Rehearsals

Our school show rehearsals for 'Love at First Flight' will start next week and we are so pleased to have a huge amount of students involved. The rehearsal timetable will be displayed in the Performing Arts Area and is updated weekly.

Peripatetic Lessons

Our peripatetic lessons start week beginning 16th September. Students will receive a slip in their tutor tray with their lesson time and timetables will be displayed in the Performing Arts Department. Lessons take place in our practice rooms, also located in the department.



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The Performing Arts Department Stars of the Week are:



Well done to the following Year 7 students for some great work on the keyboards during their first music lesson:

7R/MU3 - Mia, Freddie, Max and Robert 70/MU1 - Lily, Alex and Zhani

Year 10 Music performance have also made an excellent start to their course, well done to Paris 10Z1, Ella 10Z2 and Max 10D1 for their focus and enthusiasm in practical.



The English Department Star of the Week is:

Megan R (8D2) for being really enthusiastic and confident when contributing to lessons.

Well done Megan!



The PE Department Star of the Week is:

Kaelen A (10D1) for having an outstanding start in Health & Fitness lessons.

Well done Kaelen!



The Computer Science Department Star of the Week is:

Sebastian W (10M1) for working hard and helping others in Year 10 Computer Science

Well done Seb!





Maths

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The Science Department Stars of the Week are:

Year 13 - Alex S Year 12 - Kai L Year 11 - Frankie G-W Year 10 - Kayden D Year 9 - Jack B Year 8 - Tyler M Year 7 - Teddy L

Well done to everyone!

The Maths Department Star of the Week is:

Kyra R (11M1) for starting the year with great ambition.

Well done Kyra!

MFL Department Star of the Week

The MFL Department Stars of the Week are:

French:Honey P (9M1) & Faith C (9D2)Spanish:Erin R (9D2)

Well done Honey, Faith and Erin!



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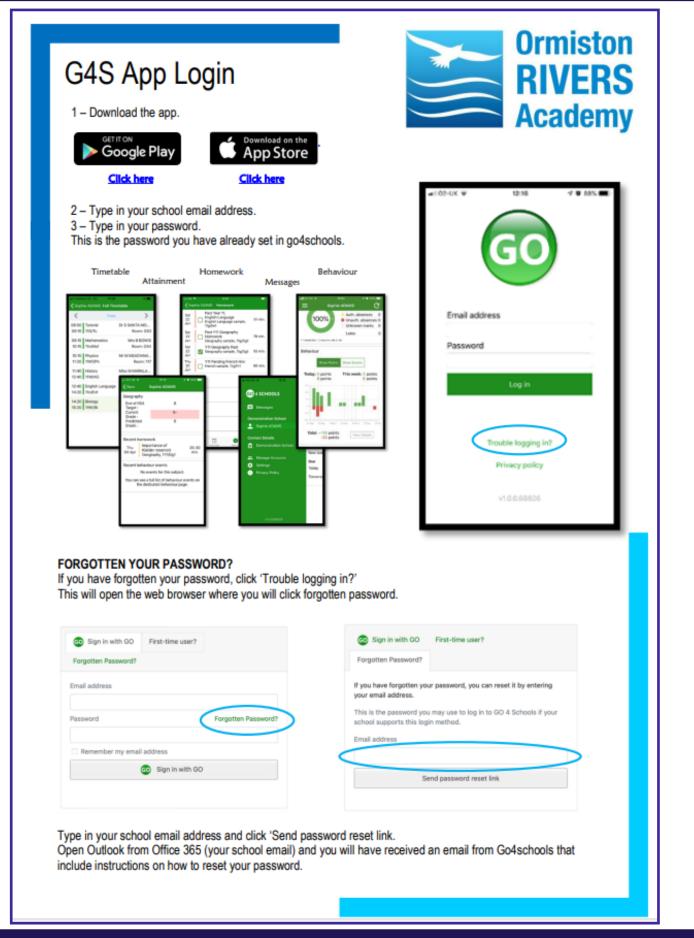
Weekly Newsletter

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Parent / Carer Login Go4Schools is an online platform providing parents and carers with live attainment, timetable, targets & attendance. This will also be where pupil reports are released. RIVERS Academy						
1 – <u>www.Go4schoo</u>	<u>ls.com</u> through any v	web browser.				
GO 4 Schools	e to GO 4 S	Starter version Modules	 MIS Engage/CPD Login Contact us Schools login Students login Parents login Governors login 			
information that is a Select Parents Click First-time Enter email ad Click New pass Click New pass Select Sign in t Open link sent	e user dress registered with word o Parent Site		uctivate account			
Overview	Attendance live p	ercentage for the ac	ademic year (24hr update).			
Attendance	Behaviour positive and negative points.					
21 Behaviour	Homework see what homework has been set.					
Homework	Inbox messages from the school will be displayed here.					
Inbox	Progress grades for	or assessments taker	n over the academic year.			
Reports Annual written communication including strengths and next steps.						
Reports Timetable	Timetable full aca	demic timetable.				
💿 Sign in with GO	First-time user?	Forgotten Password?	Forgotten Password			
	ur password, you can res	et it by entering your				
mail address. mail address			If you have forgotten your password, click 'Forgotten your Password' which is located just below the sign in option.			
5	Send password reset link		Enter your school email address and a			



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Year 7 - Mr Moon

What an amazing start to the academic year! All week I have been hearing positive comments from teachers and parents about how well the Year 7's have ben settling in. We have also received over 9,000 merit points as a year group in only 4 days!

I would just like to say special thank you to all the teachers who have supported the Year 7's, my amazing form tutors who have really welcomed the Year 7's into the school but most importantly to the parents who have encouraged them all to come into to school with such an amazing positive attitude.

The 'About me challenge'

The form tutors and I have been working hard to select the winner of the 'About Me Challenge' and it was not easy task believe me. Below are some special mentions and also the winner of the competition.

Winner of the 'About Me Challenge' was Ashley (7Z2)

Congratulations Ashley!

A special mention also goes to:

Erin Sienna Dougie Albie Bellamarie Kayleigh Marcus Abigail Eleanor

Well done to everyone!

Mr Moon

Contact: smoon@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk



'About Me Challenge'





Year 8 - Mrs Scott

It has been brilliant start for Year 8 this week as we welcomed the student's back into school. It was great to see lots of smiling faces, hear the many stories from the summer break and see students feeling excited to get back into their lessons.

I was really impressed with the high standard of uniform so thank you parents for supporting us with this.

This week, students have received two assemblies on reminders of expectations in school and preparation for the year ahead. We had a guest speaker from our Sixth Form Leadership Team, Grace J (SF2), who spoke to the year group on the importance of having ambition and setting goals.

A huge congratulations to Megan R (8D2) for being nominated as star of the week in English, a fantastic achievement for week 1.

I hope to see many more Year 8 names for Star of the Week over the next few weeks.

Mrs Scott

Contact: hscott@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk



Year 9 - Miss Thurtle

What's that I hear? The 'woo hoo's' and cheers as you waved your children off to school on Wednesday morning, for their 3rd academic year here at Ormiston Rivers Academy. I bet some of you are in disbelief that your children are now teenagers, ready to pick their GCSE's!

It is lovely to be back and writing the entry for this week's newsletter. I hope you all had an enjoyable and restful summer holiday. Some have gotten taller; some have new hairstyles and some look exactly the same. Overall, I am met by young adults, who have conducted themselves beautifully these first few days.

I would like to introduce you all to Mrs J, Owen, our new SSA for year 9. She has spent the first few days meeting with students and growing accustomed to life here at Rivers. Please urge your children to pop in and meet her. I'm sure she would love it! Please contact her at jowen@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk

I am also delighted that Mr Clay has joined our form tutor team for 8M1. I know our students are really happy and look forward to working with him.

I would like to commend a few students for their noticeable efforts during these opening days and would encourage all students to strive for excellence this year!

Faith. C (9D2) with the greatest number of merits! Henry. T (9M1) Wesley. KS (9Z1) Taylon. S (9A1)

Our reward trip this year will be to Thorpe Park (July 2025) and I wanted to make you aware of the targets I have set for the year group to be eligible for this reward trip. My figures have been calculated based on the data at the end of Year 8, making it a realistic, yet aspirational goal for students! Students will need to earn up to 2800 merits and not exceed 500 behaviour points.

We have multiple incentives planned for student attendance and I look forward to rewarding those who have 100% attendance.

I am excited to see what this term brings!

Kind regards,

Miss Thurtle

Contact: cthurtle@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk



Year 10 – Ms Taylor

Welcome back to the new year. Year 10 have made the most positive of starts to the year with few negative events, and a wealth of merits awarded. I have been impressed with their level of ambition and care for their work. As their behaviour has been largely so positive, I have been able to get into many of their lessons, and have seen some wonderful work in Maths, Drama, Food, Business Studies, Health and Fitness and Music Technology. I look forward to getting into more of their lessons next week. I have also been very impressed with students who have taken so much pride in their work and shown me their books. Many students have made an extra effort to manage anxieties and improve their conduct, and I have utmost admiration for this positive outlook and the resilience it has taken to make the necessary changes.

Students have been given guidance on revision - revision is quick and often. I have advised students to read through their work on the same evening. This is revision 1. Then again 2 days later. Then again a week later. Then a month later. The trick is to never forget the work. This is real revision - rather than what many have to do, which is to relearn - as they have forgotten the work because they haven't kept under constant and quick review. many students have reported to me that they have started this and are feeling positive about it. Parents/carers can help by asking "what did you learn today?" rather than "how was school?" It keeps them focused on the positives of learning and the progress they are making, and less focused on the gossip or drama.

Mentors are again supporting students with their phone use, and I am pleased to report that there have been no phone incidents reported at all this week with year 10. I appreciate that technology can be hard for young people to manage and commend the students for their commitment to this.

Uniform is largely good. There are a few issues with shoes, and girls are sometimes struggling to keep skirts at an appropriate length. I would appreciate your support in ironing out any glitches, so that the maintain the highest of standards.

I am especially proud of the following students for the ambition they have shown:

Paris H - 10Z1

Isabelle B - 10A2

Macey M - 10M1

In addition the following students have earned the most positive points this week and my congratulations also go to them:

Amelia T - 10Z1	Harrison A - 10M1
Thomas Y - 10Z1	Edward B - 10M1
Joshua T - 10Z1	George C - 10M2
Harry G - 10Z2	Finn O - 10M1

Evan M - 10M1 Ava H - 10M1 Matthew C - 10M2.

Wishing you all a restful weekend.

Ms Taylor Contact: staylor@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk



Year 11 – Mr Field

Welcome back and I hope you everyone has had a relaxing and enjoyable summer. It was great to see the students on Wednesday in school having a fresh start to the year.

As we commence year 11 I would like to inform you we have 30 school weeks till the exams start. It was four years ago that the students started at Ormiston Rivers in Year 7. The time will go incredibly quickly over the next 9 months.

There are some easy things students can do to ensure they get the most out of the year.

Firstly, organisation of equipment such as books, stationary or kit not allowing work to be missed.

Secondly, punctuality to both school and lessons help to ensure no work is missed.

Thirdly, the greater attendance greater the attainment. If a student has 90% attendance it usually sounds positive but I am afraid it equates to missing 3.5 weeks of school over a one-year period. A huge amount of work is missed in this time.

I look forward to working with all the Year 11 students this year and if you have any queries, please feel free to contact me.

Thank you.

Mr Field

Contact: sfield@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk



Year 12 & 13 - Mrs Wilkins

Welcome back to our fantastic Sixth Form students!

We started the year with a exciting Induction Day for our new year 12 students. They took part in a variety of activities including meeting their tutor, learning and about the Sixth Form and expectations of a students in Rivers. We then finished the day with team building activities out on the field to build a sense of community. We are very proud of everyone and how they fully involved themselves throughout the day.

On Wednesday we welcomed back our Year 13 students who have hit the road running with their university and apprenticeship applications. Please remember to speak to your pathway tutor to gain feedback on your personal statements.

While the weather is still fairly nice, please remember to adhere to the dress code. This has been emailed to all parents and students as a reminder.

Offsite agreement forms have been handed out. We will be monitoring students over the first few weeks but forms must be signed by parents and carers before we can allow anyone to leave the site.

Remember, if you have any concerns please come and see Mrs Wilkins or Miss Penberthy in the Sixth Form area.

From all of the Sixth Form Team we want to welcome you back and thank you for such a strong, positive start to the year!

Contact: mwilkins@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk



RIVERS SIXTH FORM



















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Helping parents to understand the changes to fines for term time holidays

With the introduction of the new National Framework for Penalty Notices, the following changes will come into force for Penalty Notice Fines issued for unauthorised holidays recorded by schools after 19th August 2024.

Who may be fined?

Penalty Notice Fines are issued to each parent who allows their child to be absent from school.

<u>For example</u>: 3 siblings absent for term time leave, would result in each parent who allowed the holiday receiving 3 separate fines.

First Offence

The first time a Penalty Notice is issued for an unauthorised term time holiday the fine amount will be:

£80 per parent, per child if paid within 21 days.

> Increasing to £160 if paid between days 22-28.

National Threshold

There will be a single consistent national threshold for when a penalty notice must be considered by all schools in England of 10 sessions (usually equivalent to 5 school days) of unauthorised absence within a rolling 10 school week period.

These sessions do not have to be consecutive and can be made up of a combination of any type of unauthorised absence, including the U code (late after registers have closed).

For example: a 5 day holiday would meet the national threshold.

The 10-school week period can span different terms or school years.

Second Offence

(within 3 years)

The Second time a Penalty Notice is issued for unauthorised absence the amount will be:

£160 per parent (who allowed the holiday), per child, payable within 28 days.

Third Offence and Any Further Offences (within 3 years)

The third time an offence is committed a Penalty Notice will not be issued and local authorities will need to consider other available measures to address the absence concerns. This may mean that cases are presented before a Magistrate's Court. Prosecution can result in criminal records and fines of up to £2,500.

Cases found guilty in the Magistrates' Court can show on the parent's future DBS certificate due to 'failure to safeguard a child's education'.



Absence Reporting

Students should attend school unless they are very unwell. On every day of absence please contact the school with the reason why your son/daughter is not attending. Please contact us as early as possible and at the latest by 8am on the first day of absence. This can be via the following methods:

MyEd Messaging App

ConnectED absence line: 0845 355 8104

Attendance line: 01621 787855

Change of Personal Details

It is essential that we are kept up to date with changes in your contact details. This may be a change to a mobile number, an e-mail address, a full address or even a change of who is the first priority to contact. By keeping us up to date with changes we can ensure that you are receiving information regarding your child's progress and that we can contact someone in the case of an emergency. Or preferred means of communication is by e-mail, please ensure that we have a current e-mail address for you. Please notify us of any changes by e-mail to: kcannon@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk.

Term dates can be found on the academy website:

Ormiston Rivers Academy - Term Dates



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Menu

We have pleasure in enclosing a link to next weeks <u>menu</u>. Please note that items are subject to change at short notice due to availability of produce from our suppliers. We welcome feedback on our catering offer; so please email our catering manager, Leanne Warner at <u>lwarner@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk</u> with any comments / suggestions.

Nut Allergies

Any form of nut or products that contain nuts should not be brought into school. We do have students with severe nut allergies, which can be life threatening, and we would appreciate your support in keeping them safe.

Parentpay

The daily limit for students to spend is set at £4.50 as a default. This means, should a student select items at break and / or lunch which take them over the limit, they will be asked to put something back. If you would like to change the limit on your child's account please email our catering manager lwarner@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk. Please note: it can take a while before the cashless system updates once you have added funds to your child's catering account. Please be mindful of this and try and get the money on there in plenty of time for break / lunch. When adding funds please ensure you add it to Dinner money and make sure it's not just sitting in your parent account.

Free School Meals

The daily limit for free school meals is £3.30. Funds will need to be added to your child's Parentpay account should you wish them to be allowed to exceed the limit.

Catering Cards

Students must tap their catering card each time they wish to make a purchase, even if they are entitled to free school meals. Please remind them that they need to bring their catering card in every day. Those students without their card will be held back until the end of the queue, allowing those through with cards first. The cards really speed up the catering service, giving students more time to socialise with friends and eat their food. If a card is lost or damaged, a new one can be purchased for £1 on ParentPay. The new card will be delivered to tutors the following morning.

If you have any questions regarding any of the above please contact either Leanne Warner, Catering Manager <u>lwarner@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk</u> or Angela Mahoney, Finance & Business Director <u>amahoney@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk</u>.



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Academy Shop

All students are required to have sufficient equipment to allow them to learn and achieve their full potential. It is a students' responsibility to arrive at the Academy with the appropriate equipment for lessons:

Equipment:

2 x black pens 1 x purple biro for assessment feedback 2 x pencils 1 x 30cm ruler Coloured pencils (not felt tips) Eraser Pencil sharpener Maths set (including a scientific calculator) Student Planner (student organiser) Reading book Books / folders for the days lessons Water bottle Basic art equipment

The Academy Shop, located near the main hall, is open before school 8.30 - 8.50am and at breaktime 11.20 - 11.50am every day. The shop stocks all of the above equipment, as well as a wide selection of revision guides & workbooks, for all year groups. You can also purchase new ties from here. We can only accept cash for shop purchases on site, we are unable to use credit on a students catering card. Alternatively, you can complete an order form and return it to finance@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk.

Year 10 & 11 -You will find an item on ParentPay - KS4 Revision Guides & Equipment- just overwrite the amount with the total to be paid, we will check it against your order and let you know when the items can be collected from the shop (or you can call in and collect from main reception if you would prefer).

Year 7, 8 & 9 (KS3) - Once we have received your completed order, we will add it to your ParentPay account. When payment has been confirmed we will let you know when the items can be collected from the shop (or you can call in and collect from main reception if you would prefer).

You can access the up to date <u>KS3 order form</u> and the <u>KS4 order form</u> here; these are also available on our website www.ormistonriversacademy.co.uk. Please contact finance on 01621 787845 if you have any queries.



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