



3rd December 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

The final weeks of this half term provides us with a great opportunity to focus on our CARE values and how our staff and students can live these every day.

There is nothing new in this, but we want to get these areas right before the new year begins: uniform, mobile phones, standards on corridors, showing respect for each other and readiness to learn.

The current mobile phone policy is that phones must be off and out of sight from 8:30am until 3:20pm or they will be confiscated and a parent will need to collect. We are looking to review this policy in the summer term and will update you nearer the time.

We wanted to communicate with you our expectations regarding uniform and give you some time to support us with this before next week. The Uniform Policies are attached. Please can we remind you particularly that skirts need to be just above the knee and that shoes should be leather with no mesh or visible logos. You will be aware that there are differences in the Year 7 and Year 8-11 policies regarding uniform.

We know that inconsistency can be a frustration to you, so we are delighted that the trust has agreed to be a part of this and are releasing some of their key staff to support us for a two day 'CARE' focus. I am delighted. They will be present on site for two days, Thursday 12th December 2024 and Friday 13th December 2024 wearing 'hi vis' vests so that they are easily identified by students.

In the new year, to prepare for the continued drive to raise standards we will be asking students to join us a bit later on Monday 6th January. Buses have been arranged for an hour later than usual and school will start at 9:45am.

As always, thank you for your continuing support in raising standards and upholding the academy's expectations together.

Yours sincerely,

Joanne Williams,
Principal, Ormiston Rivers Academy