

End of Academic Year Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the end of another successful academic year at Ormiston Rivers Academy, I would like to take this opportunity to extend my sincere thanks for your continued support. Your involvement and encouragement, particularly during the many visits and events we've held, has been invaluable and greatly appreciated by all of us.

This year has seen an array of enriching activities and celebrations. From the inspiring Burnham Art Trail exhibitions and Science Ocean Life VR Experience to the engaging Jamie's Pasta Champions, and of course, our memorable 'Star Wars' Gym & Dance Show—our students have continued to shine both in and outside the classroom. These experiences, shared in our weekly bulletins, reflect the vibrant and inclusive community we are so proud of.

I would also like to express my gratitude to our dedicated staff, who have worked tirelessly to provide a broad range of opportunities and support for every student. We also say goodbye to several colleagues who are moving on; their commitment and contribution to the life of the academy will be greatly missed.

As we draw this term to a close, I hope that all students, families and staff enjoy a restful and well-deserved summer break. I look forward to welcoming our new Year 7 students to our academy, and to seeing our senior students again in August as they collect their examination results.

Thank you once again for being such an important part of our school community.

With warmest wishes,

Dijana Piralic



Parent Pledge from the Principal

Any issue of concern that you may have that you are unable to resolve with a member of the academy leadership team, I will be available to speak to you on the phone within 24 hours or to meet with you within 48 hours.

15th September 2023

Date



Signature

Dates for your Diary

Monday 1st September 2025

Staff INSET Day - academy closed to students

Tuesday 2nd September 2025

Registration Day for Year 7 & 12 students only

Wednesday 3rd September 2025

All year groups return to ORA

Thursday 25 September 2025

Year 6 Open Evening - academy closes at 1.50pm for students

Tuesday 30 September 2025

Sixth Form Open Evening



First Give

We excited to share that after six weeks of hard work, the Year 8's competition by First Give came to an end, and judges have nominated form 8D2 as their winners. The representatives, LLC, JJ, KC, MW, and GR, delivered an outstanding presentation on their chosen charity, SNAP!, securing a prize of £1000.

Additionally, a special judges' recommendation was awarded to the representatives of 8Z1 for their impressive demonstration of the local charity, Helen Rollason. Charities play a vital role in supporting families during challenging times and providing mental health resources when needed most.

We want to thank all Year 8 students for their understanding of the importance of these commitments and for their dedication to supporting such impactful initiatives.





Exams News



SUMMER 2025 EXAM RESULTS COLLECTION

| | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| YEAR 13 A LEVEL RESULTS | THURSDAY 14TH AUGUST 2025 8.00am to 11.30am LOCATION: Sixth Form Area |
| YEAR 12 UNIT RESULTS | THURSDAY 14TH AUGUST 2025 9.00am to 11.30am LOCATION: Sixth Form Area |
| YEAR 11 GCSE RESULTS | THURSDAY 21ST AUGUST 2025 9.00am to 11.30am LOCATION: Gym – enter school via main foyer entrance (doors opposite main hall) |

All communication relating to results should be sent via email to:
exams@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk **from your student ORA email address**

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Exam results will not be given over the phone or emailed.

A student may nominate an ADULT to collect their results on their behalf. However, the adult collecting must bring with them a letter of authorisation signed by the student.

Results not collected on the above dates/times will be unavailable until the school re-opens on Tuesday 2nd September 2025.

EXAM CERTIFICATES

You must collect your exam certificates from the school.
Certificates will be available for collection from Monday 1st December 2025.



Year 7 - Mr Moon

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of an incredible year, we wanted to take a moment to reflect on what has been a truly rewarding journey for our Year 7 students.

It has been a joy to watch them grow in confidence and resilience as they've settled into secondary school life. From the nerves and excitement of their very first day to the capable enthusiastic young learners they are now the transformation has been remarkable.

Our final week has been filled with fun and celebration. The Adventure Island trip was a fantastic day out, full of laughter and smiles - and we were lucky enough to dodge the showers!

On Wednesday, we enjoyed an energetic and competitive sports day, where many students showcased real talent on track and field events. Were excited to see these young athletes continue to develop their potential next year.

As we look ahead to September, it's exciting to know that our Year 7s will no longer be the "Newbies" and that they are more than ready to step into the role of a Year 8 student with confidence and enthusiasm.

Thank you for all your support throughout the year. We wish you a restful, sunny summer and look forward to welcoming everyone back safely in September.

Contact: smoon@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk

Year 8 - Ms Scott

As we reach the end of another academic year, I want to take a moment to reflect on what a truly incredible journey it has been for our Year 8 students. Over the past months, we have watched them grow into confident, independent, and aspirational young people, and I couldn't be prouder of all that they've achieved – both in and out of the classroom.

This week has been full of excitement as we round off the year with some well-deserved fun. Our much-anticipated trips day saw 45 students head over to Stubbers for a day of outdoor adventure – and what a day it was! From paddleboarding and raft-building to laser tag and rock climbing, it was heart warming to see the students throw themselves into every challenge with enthusiasm and team spirit. I'm still laughing about the group whose raft collapsed right in the middle of the lake, sending the whole team splashing in! A special shoutout goes to Tyler M, our undisputed MVP of laser tag – his army-style tactics were truly next level! And another shoutout to Rose T for her enthusiasm and for bringing her team together



Check out our video reel from the day here: [Stubbers Day Highlights](#)

On Wednesday, we came together for our annual Sports Day, where students took part in a variety of fun and competitive activities including Kwik Cricket and the ever-popular "Cross the Swamp". Good luck to all the houses – we can't wait to see who comes out on top when the final results are revealed!



This brings me to a bittersweet note – as we head into the summer holidays, this will be my last day with Year 8 and I will not be returning in September. It's incredibly hard to say goodbye, but I want to thank all of you – students, parents, and carers – for your support, humour, and kindness over the past year. I have laughed, cried, and built relationships with students that I will truly cherish forever. It has been an honour to be part of their journey.

I'm especially sad to be leaving the wonderful Ms. Corbett, who will be continuing to care for and guide the year group next year alongside Mr. Chapman. They are both fantastic and I know Year 9 will be in very safe hands.

A big goodbye from me – and from Ms. Corbett too!

Wishing you all a relaxing and joyful summer break.

Contact: hscott@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk





Year 9 - Mr Field

Key Stage 3 has finally come to an end and students will soon start preparing for their GCSEs as they enter the business end of their school career.

I have only been their Head of Year for a short period time so far, but I am really look forward to helping guide the year group through their GCSEs over the next 2 years. As they start their GCSEs, attendance at school becomes even more important. Missed or late lessons have a huge effect on grades. You may think that 90% attendance over the year sounds positive, but it actually equates to 19 days of school, or 4 weeks of lessons missed and huge amount of knowledge is not consumed. This is why it is essential that we work together to ensure your children are in school everyday.

Please may I also ask parents to ensure uniform is updated and purchased over the summer in preparation for the new term. Students will be held fully accountable for not wearing the correct uniform as part of the updated behaviour policy from September and sanctions issued where appropriate.

I hope everyone enjoys their time off school and uses it to relax and recover before coming back ready and raring to go in September.

Contact: sfield@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk



RIVERS SIXTH FORM

Year 12 & 13 - Mrs Wilkins

Sixth Form in the Community

On Tuesday our Year 12 students enjoyed a fantastic trip to Laser Warfare in Brentwood as part of a team-building and enrichment experience. Set in woodland terrain, the day was packed with energy, excitement, and plenty of competitive spirit.

Students worked in teams to complete missions, strategise, and outmanoeuvre the opposition – all while developing leadership, communication, and problem-solving skills. It was great to see so many students fully engaged, supporting one another, and showing resilience throughout the day. The trip was not only a brilliant way to celebrate the end of a busy term but also helped strengthen the sense of community among our Sixth Form. A huge thank you to the staff who supported the visit – and well done to all students who took part with enthusiasm and maturity.

Lesson Shoutout: Physics – Air Pressure & Rocket Design!

This week in Physics, our students took on the challenge of designing the most aerodynamic rocket using their knowledge of air pressure and forces. After careful planning and construction, rockets were launched from the school field in a thrilling test of science and creativity. Congratulations to Theo, Eva and Evie, whose rocket soared the furthest and secured first place in the challenge! An impressive demonstration of practical application, teamwork, and problem-solving from all involved.

Student Shoutout

A huge well done to Hannae, who has gone above and beyond in her leadership role this year. She has worked around the clock to produce outstanding social media content for both Sixth Form and the whole school, showcasing creativity, dedication, and real professionalism. Hannae was also the winner of the Sixth Form Enrichment Award and proudly achieved Gold in our Enrichment Scheme – a true reflection of her commitment to personal development and contribution to our school community. Thank you, Hannae – your work has made a real impact and inspired others!

Honours Assembly

We couldn't be prouder of the incredible number of students recognised at this year's Honours Assembly. From leadership and academic excellence to enrichment and community contribution, it has been a fantastic year full of achievement. A huge congratulations to all of our award winners – your hard work, commitment and drive have not gone unnoticed. We're excited to see what's next as you return in September as our new Year 13 cohort. Enjoy the summer – you've earned it!

RIVERS SIXTH FORM

Sixth Form Dress Code Update – September 2025

A revised Sixth Form dress code will come into effect from September 2025, with only minor changes to the current expectations. As the weather begins to warm up, we kindly ask all students to continue to adhere to the uniform policy. If you are unsure about any aspect of the dress code, please speak to Mrs Wilkins or Mrs Penberthy for clarification.



At Rivers Sixth Form, we expect all students to maintain high standards of dress and appearance that reflect a purposeful, professional learning environment. Clothing should be clean, appropriate for study, and avoid extreme or distracting styles. Business attire is encouraged wherever possible, to promote a professional and purposeful learning environment.

For formal events such as **Celebration Evenings, Open Evening**, and similar occasions, students are expected to wear **smart business attire**.

Failure to meet dress code expectations may result in students being sent home to change.

All students must wear their **Sixth Form ID badge** visibly at all times. This is essential for:

- Gaining access to and from the building
- Supporting site-wide **safeguarding procedures**

If a student forgets their ID badge, they must report to the Sixth Form office immediately to be issued with a temporary one for the day. A **£5 charge** will apply for a permanent replacement.

- Clothing must be **clean, safe, and functional**, suitable for the learning activities being undertaken.
- **Footwear** should be sensible and appropriate for the school environment.
- Final decisions regarding dress code compliance lie with the **Sixth Form Team**.

DRESS CODE

- No short skirts, dresses, or playuits
- Smart Jeans - no rips
- No flipflops, crocs or beach footwear
- Tops that expose the stomach or reveal the chest are unacceptable as are strappy, strapless or backless tops
- No hoodies - smart sweatshirts are allowed
- Plain tops, t-shirts and polo shirts are allowed - no profanity
- No loungewear including lounge shorts
- No jogging bottoms
- No sportswear unless taking part in a sporting activity
- No leggings or flared leggings
- No loose-fitting cargo trousers
- Tailored, chino, denim or linen shorts are allowed

Students who fail to meet the dress code will receive **one formal warning**. Any further breaches at any point during the academic year will result in the student being **sent home to change**. This will be recorded as an **unauthorised absence**, as the student arrived unprepared for learning.

Please note: Following a first warning, students who do not meet the dress code expectations will be asked to return home to change before re-joining lessons. Thank you for your cooperation and continued high standards.

Careers

If any Year 12 or 13 students would like a careers appointment or support for the final few months, please speak to Mrs Penberthy to arrange this.

Please follow our Instagram account for regular updates @riverssixthform
Remember to call Mrs Penberthy to report absences 01621 787882

Contact: mwilkins@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk



Catering



Menu

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 lwarner@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk 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 lwarner@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk or Angela Mahoney, Finance & Business Director amahoney@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk.



Rivers Academy Shop

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 [KS3 order form](#) and the [KS4 order form](#) here; these are also available on our website www.ormistonriversacademy.co.uk. Please contact finance on 01621 787845 if you have any queries.



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.

Lost Property

We have several items in lost property, mainly coats, PE kits, blazers and drinking bottles. Any student can check in Student Reception for lost items. Please note that items not collected before the end of each half-term may be donated to charity or disposed of accordingly, therefore, please remind your children to check for anything they have misplaced before this time. Thank you.