

### Message from the Principal

Last week, our Year 11 and Year 12 students took part in mock interviews supported by volunteers from our local community and our Governing Body. I would like to extend my sincere thanks to Mrs Compton for organising this valuable experience, and to all the volunteers who kindly gave their time. Their support plays a vital role in helping our students build the confidence and skills they need for their future pathways.

At Rivers, we expect all students to be polite and to follow staff instructions at all times. This week, we have been speaking with students about our expectations around defiance and what this looks like in everyday situations. Defiance includes behaviours such as walking away from a member of staff when asked to stop or discuss an issue, or refusing to follow a reasonable request. Staff will always provide take up time so students have the chance to meet expectations. When this does not happen, the behaviour will be considered defiance.

To support consistency across the school, staff will be using the “FAIR” shared language when giving instructions:

**F – Follow my instructions**

**A – I am asking you to...**

**I – It is needed so that...**

**R – Refusal will mean defiance**

Your support in reinforcing these expectations at home is greatly appreciated. Working together helps us maintain a positive, respectful environment where all students and staff can thrive.

We also continue to celebrate students who consistently make positive choices in their attendance and behaviour for learning. Next Friday, before we break up for the half term holiday, we will be holding our third Club Zero Non-Uniform Day. This event recognises all students who have achieved zero negative behaviour points or zero days of absence during this half term. It is always wonderful to see so many students earn their place in Club Zero, and we are incredibly proud of their commitment and hard work.

I am also delighted to share that four of our talented students have made it through to the *Ormiston's Got Talent Regional Final*—a fantastic achievement that reflects their creativity, confidence and dedication. Huge congratulations to **Alissa, Harry, Livvie and Isobelle**. We are incredibly proud of each of them and wish them the very best as they prepare for the final. We look forward to cheering them on.



**Message from the Principal**

Finally, if you have a child in Year 8–12, please do encourage them to enter the Felsted **Summer School Essay Competition**. Students apply independently online for the chance to win a fully funded place at the programme as a British Ambassador—an incredible opportunity. Details can be found here:

<https://www.felsted.org/global-education/summer-school/essay-competition>

Our staff are very happy to support any student who would like help with their application.

Thank you for your continued support. We deeply appreciate everything you do to help our school community thrive.

Warm regards,  
Dijana Piralic  
Principal [Interim]

**Dates for your Diary**

**Monday 16th February to Friday 20th February 2026**

Half Term Holiday

**Monday 23rd February 2026**

Staff OAT INSET Day – academy closed to students

**Parents Evenings**

**Year 8** - Thursday 19 March 2026

**Year 11** - Thursday 26 March 2026

**Year 7** - Thursday 7 May 2026



# Attendance Matters

## 100%

Each week we are giving a shout out to the tutor groups with the highest attendance for Years 7 to 11. This is something that needs to be celebrated, as attendance really does matter!

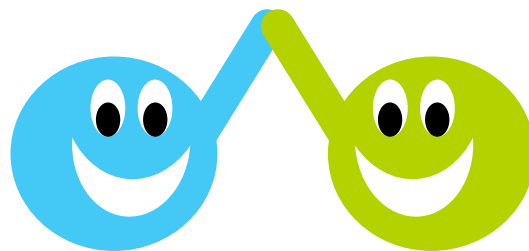
If you see your child's year group mentioned, give them a big high five for their contribution towards this fantastic achievement.

Year 7  
7Z2  
Year 10  
10M1

Year 9  
9A2

Year 8  
8A2

Year 11  
11A1



### **Absence Reporting**

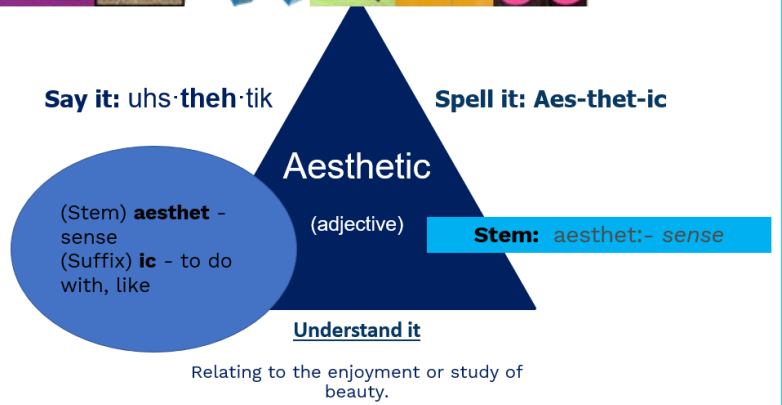
Students should attend school unless they are very unwell. On every day of absence please contact the school with the reason why your son/daughter is not attending. Please contact us as early as possible and at the latest by 8am on the first day of absence. This can be via the following methods:

- MyEd Messaging App
- Attendance line: 01621 787855

### WORD OF THE WEEK

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 **"Aesthetic"**.

Why not have a go? Send the definition and the word in a sentence to [wotw@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk](mailto:wotw@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk).



#### Year 8 Girls Football

On Tuesday, our Year 8 girls' football team played a match against Chelmsford County High School. It was a fantastic game, and the girls played their hearts out. Unfortunately, we were unlucky to lose, but the team's effort and determination were truly commendable.

The match was filled with some really impressive plays and moments of brilliance from our team. Despite the final score, the girls should be incredibly proud of their performance. They showed great teamwork and sportsmanship throughout the game.

I'm sure with a bit more practice and determination, we'll come back even stronger in our next match. Let's continue to support and encourage the girls as they grow and develop their skills on the field.



### HOBBY CLUB

Don't forget that Hobby Club is open to all students in years 7, 8 and 9 on Fridays in D05. We have some things for you to do, but please feel free to make suggestions or bring in your own hobby to share with the group.

### Rotary Club Young Writer's 2026

This year the Rotary Club Young Writer's are looking for entries based on 'Happiness in Nature'. This can be any form of writing featuring the theme and all ages are welcome to submit.



This is an exciting programme to be part of and we have had National winners in the past from Ormiston Rivers too! If you would like to take part, please email your entry with your full name to [lsams@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk](mailto:lsams@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk) by the 13th February.

Good luck!



We are really excited to announce that the following students have made it through to the Ormiston's Got Talent Regional Final at Ormiston Victory Academy on Thursday 12th March:

**Alissa (11D1)**  
**Harry (10M1)**  
**Livvie (11A1)**  
**Isobelle (11M1)**



They will be competing against a number of students from other academies, and the winning students will be crowned the Regional Winner of Ormiston's Got Talent.



Students will receive a trophy and be invited to perform at future trust events such as The National Leadership Conference in November. All students will receive a goody bag! Good luck to our finalists, we know they will be fantastic!

Thank you also to our other wonderful students who auditioned, Paige (9A1) Danica (10M1) Haidyn (10M1) Emme (10D2) and Rose (10M1).





# Careers Spotlight

### Job of the week

[JOB OF THE WEEK - EPISODE #257 - SATELLITE ENGINEER](#)



### Year 11 and 12 Mock Interviews

Congratulations to all of the Year 11 and 12 students who took part in the Mock Interview Days last week. The interviewers were very impressed with the way you presented yourselves. Feedback sheets will be given back to students with some ideas of how you can improve for a real interview. We thank all of our Volunteer Interviewers for coming into support.

### Year 7,8, 9 and 10 - Take Your Child to Work Day - Monday 23rd February

To widen the understanding and appreciation of the working world, we are delighted to start running the "Take Your Child to Work Day". Your child is invited to participate, and we hope that every student in Year 7-10 will be able to organise a suitable day's experience with a parent, relative, family friend or someone they know well – it does not have to be a parent. Booklets will be handed out in tutor time before half term. Your help is greatly appreciated in helping to organise this for them. We hope a day can be arranged on Monday 23rd February 2026. This is an INSET day, so no lessons will be affected.

The aims of the day are for students to:

- gain an awareness of a workplace organisation
- find out about the jobs that are available in different organisations
- develop an awareness of the skills and qualifications that are required in the workplace
- consider the need to develop an individual learning plan towards employability.

Parents should use their own judgement about where their child goes, and I would like to stress that the focus for students will be observation and fact-finding. The day is not intended to be a hands-on work experience placement and, therefore, for insurance purposes students should be treated as visitors and not workers, as the school cannot be held responsible for your child while they are in the workplace. If you require further information and advice, please contact me on email on

[fcompton@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk](mailto:fcompton@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk).

**Work Experience Week ... Get looking for your placement now. Log your placement on Unifrog - All students have received an email from Unifrog so they can log in their placement there.**

Year 10 Work Experience Week - Monday 20th July - Friday 24th July 2026

Year 12 Work Experience Week - Monday 29th June - Friday 3rd July 2026

**Messages from our SENCo, Ms Reynolds****Completion of External Agency Paperwork**

Due to the increased demand for external agency paperwork, we have reviewed our administrative procedure for processing the forms. The request for paperwork from medical professionals for Autism Spectrum Condition and Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder exploration is completed by collecting information from teaching and pastoral staff. This considers the feedback from class teachers, safeguarding information, classroom and social time observations from the SEND team, along with the students' academic performance. This process will be completed within 4 weeks, but this is not inclusive of school holidays.



Please be aware, we only complete forms based on the evidence we see in school and therefore, we are unable to amend forms to represent what is seen at home. The forms will be sent directly to the medical professionals, who will decide the next steps for your child. It is important to bear in mind, the exploration of Autism and/or Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder can take up to two years to conclude. The Academy cannot diagnose or have an influence over waiting times.

**Referrals for Autism Spectrum Condition / Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder Exploration**

The Academy is aware that some parents and guardians have been advised that school must start the referral process for Autism Spectrum Condition and Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder exploration. The current NHS guidelines for Essex states that: your child's school, their GP or a health professional can submit a referral via the MyCareBridge online system. A school referral can only be made where there is sufficient evidence, and a history of difficulties seen in the educational setting. In cases where there is insufficient school evidence, a medical professional should decide how best to proceed. We appreciate that this is sometimes difficult for parents and guardians, but self-referral to CAMHs for a behavioural assessment in this case is possible.

**Contact: [send@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk](mailto:send@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk)**



# Exams News



## **Spring Mock Exams**

We are now making final preparations for the Spring mock series which begins after the February half-term. Students will receive their timetables during form time on Monday.

Parents of students in Y11 will be receiving letters in the next few days which provides important information about this mock series and preparation for it.

A candidate exam handbook is now available on our website. This is primarily aimed at Year 11 students and their families but also contains information about the exam process which may be of interest to younger students, particularly those undertaking coursework, and to 6th form students to remind themselves of the exam process and regulations. The handbook can be viewed using the link below:

[ORA Candidate Exams Handbook](#)

Good Luck to all students taking part in the Spring mock season.

## **Autumn Resit exams**

The JCQ have announced provisional dates for the Autumn Maths and English GCSE resits. These will begin on 2nd November and run through to 11th November 2026.

## **Certificates**

Certificates for the summer season are usually available at the beginning of December. A definite date will be shared in results envelopes. As previously mentioned, adults can collect certificates on behalf of former students as long as we receive written permission to release them. This can be via an email to [exams@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk](mailto:exams@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk) or a note upon collection. Please call in to main reception during the school day to collect. We have a large number of certificates earned over the last 2 years which we would love to pass on to their owners.





## FELSTED SUMMER SCHOOL 2026 SCHOLARSHIP ESSAY COMPETITION

The Felsted Summer School application process has changed this year and places for students will be awarded through their **International Summer School Essay Competition** with students applying independently online giving them the chance to win a fully funded place on the programme in the role of a British Ambassador.

**Details about the competition and application process can be viewed here:**

<https://www.felsted.org/global-education/summer-school/essay-competition>

**Further information about the Summer School can be found here:**  
[Felsted Summer School](#)

**The summer school program offers students a unique opportunity to:**

- Build confidence and leadership by welcoming and supporting international students
- Share their culture, experiences, and knowledge, helping others feel at home
- Develop communication skills and strengthen their English in a real-world, international setting
- Form lasting friendships with students from around the world
- Experience the atmosphere of a leading UK boarding school during the summer holidays

**Please encourage your child to apply for this fantastic opportunity. We are here to support students with their application if required.**



**Win a Scholarship to Felsted Summer School**

We are delighted to announce our First annual Essay Competition, offering students the opportunity to earn a scholarship to Felsted International Summer School 2026.

**Essay Competition 2026**

We invite curious, ambitious students to sharpen their thinking, polish their expression, and step confidently into the role of a British Ambassador by entering this year's Felsted Essay Competition.

The competition is open to:

- British Students Only (UK home address required)
- Primary Category: Years 5 & 6 (8-11 years old)
- Senior Category: Years 8-12 (12-17 years old)

**ESSAY COMPETITION TOPICS**

Why would you like to attend Felsted International Summer School?

How have your learning experiences or personal challenges prepared you to support and represent British culture as a British Helper?

For any assistance with the above information please contact Myrto Psomadakis, Summer School Academic Manager on [summeracademics@felsted.org](mailto:summeracademics@felsted.org) or +44 (0)1371 822 525 or follow the QR code link.

**SCAN ME FOR MORE INFORMATION**



**Year 7 - Mr Adair**

Dear Parents and Carers, What a fantastic week it has been for our Year 7 students, who continue to bring such a positive atmosphere to school each day. It has been especially rewarding to see the year group maturing into thoughtful, responsible young adults, something that shines through in their conduct, their learning, and the way they support one another.

Our Science lessons have been a real highlight, with students exploring the make up of different minerals and demonstrating outstanding curiosity and focus throughout.

Beyond the classroom, the determination shown at after school rugby practice has been truly inspiring—perhaps helped along by the excitement of the Six Nations kicking off this Thursday—and the commitment from our young players has been wonderful to witness.

Auditions for the Summer Gym & Dance Show are also well underway, with students practising incredibly hard and showing real passion for their performances. We are also delighted to share that the Year 7 Merit Exchange will soon be up and running at the Science Hatch, where students will be able to trade in their merits for a wide selection of fantastic prizes.

Thank you to our staff, students, and parents for contributing to such a brilliant week in school; your support and enthusiasm make all the difference.

**Warm regards, The Year 7 Team**

Contact: [cadair@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk](mailto:cadair@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk)



## Year 8 - Mr Moon

This week's assembly focused on the theme of **respect** and the importance of showing kindness to others. We explored the idea that being kind encourages kindness in return, a value that strengthens not only our relationships but our year group as a whole. To help bring this to life, we looked at how different sports treat their officials.

In **rugby**, players consistently demonstrate high levels of respect towards referees, accepting decisions calmly and positively. In contrast, **football** often shows us moments where respect is challenged, with frustrations being directed at officials. The message to Year 8 was clear: **when we treat others with respect — teachers, classmates, teammates — we help create a positive and supportive environment for everyone.**

We also celebrated a fantastic achievement from a group of pupils with **outstanding attendance**, who earned their place on our reward trip to London to see Harry Potter and the Cursed Child. They represented Year 8 brilliantly, behaved exceptionally well, and had an amazing time. Their commitment throughout the year has truly paid off.

Our **top merit earners** this week deserve special recognition for their effort, behaviour, and contribution to our school community:

- 🏆 **Bella (8D1) – 42 merits**
- 🏆 **Frankie (8M2) – 34 merits**
- 🏆 **Kyran (8A2) – 30 merits**

A huge congratulations to all three — outstanding work and a brilliant example to the rest of the year group.

With **one week to go until half term**, it's important we finish this half term the same way we started the school year: **with positivity, optimism, and a determination to be our best selves.**

Let's continue supporting one another, making good choices, and showing the respect and kindness that make Year 8 such a brilliant community to be part of.

Contact: [smoon@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk](mailto:smoon@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk)

### **Year 9 – Mr Chapman**

#### **Top Merits of the Week**

A huge congratulations to our top merit earners this week, with all three students in joint first place:

Alexy (9M2)  
Emily (9A2)  
Amelia (9A2)

Fantastic effort from all three—well done!

#### **Top Merits of the Year So Far**

Our current overall leaders for the year are:

Ava (9A2)  
James (9D2)  
Alex (9D1) and Mia (9D2) – joint third place

Keep up the excellent work, Year 9—every point counts!

#### **Parents' Evening**

A huge thank you to all the parents, students, and staff involved in last night's Parents' Evening. It was a very positive event filled with constructive and supportive conversations. I hope students are now feeling more confident about the options process and are beginning to give serious thought to their choices for next year.

If anyone was unable to secure an appointment with a teacher—especially for a subject being seriously considered as an option—please do reach out to staff directly for feedback. We want every student to have the information they need to make informed and confident decisions.

For further information please visit our Year 9 Options page on our website:

<https://ormistonriversacademy.co.uk/curriculum/gcse-options>

#### **Final Week Before Half Term**

Only one more week to go until half term—let's make it a focused, positive, and productive one!

Contact: [rchapman@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk](mailto:rchapman@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk)



**Year 10 - Mr Field**

During my learning walks this week, it was fantastic to see pupils working hard in Science. The current topic focuses on diseases and the importance of vaccines, and it was wonderful to hear pupils confidently discussing illnesses in both humans and plants. Their engagement and curiosity were clear to see.

Earlier in the week, a selected group of Year 10 pupils had the exciting opportunity to attend both stage shows of Harry Potter and the Cursed Child. It was great to hear that they thoroughly enjoyed their day in the West End and represented the school so well.

A reminder to parents and pupils that there is still time to organise Work Experience placements for July. Please ensure arrangements are made as soon as possible so pupils can secure meaningful and valuable placements.

**Congratulations to our top positive points earners this week:**

Tegan, Pippa, Jake W, Amber, George P, Scarlet, Molly, Lola, Danica, Felicity, Oscar, Chloe  
Well done to all of you—keep up the great work!

Contact: [sfield@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk](mailto:sfield@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk)





**Year 11 – Ms Taylor**

Year 11 will be getting their mock timetables soon and should be working over the half term break for their GCSEs - which will begin in May.

I would like to remind students of the criteria for invites to prom:

- attendance to school being 95% - unless we are aware of exceptional circumstances
- attendance to lessons
- conduct in school

If students have yet to make applications for post 16 courses, these should be done as soon as possible. Students should apply for all courses that interest them - so that they are able to turn options down rather than chase places.

**This week's top merit earners are:**

Elliot C (11Z1), Daisy S (11A1), Max C (11D1), Phoebe N (11D1), Evie S (11Z2), Isla A (11Z2), Oliver B (11A1), Bella W (11M2), Edward B (11M1), Bobby B (11D1), Isabelle J (11M2), Florence S (11Z1), Ava B (11Z1), Ella C (11Z2), Finn O (11M1), Hollie P (11D1).

Wishing you all a restful weekend.

Contact: [staylor@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk](mailto:staylor@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk)

# RIVERS SIXTH FORM

### Year 12 & 13 - Mrs Wilkins

This week in Sixth Form we have spent a significant amount of time focusing on health and wellbeing. We recognised World Cancer Day and took part in Time to Talk Day, exploring how students can look after themselves and where they can seek support when feeling stressed or overwhelmed. Alongside this, our Sixth Form Leadership Team has been working closely with the lower years to help establish a new Junior Leadership Team, which will play an important role in shaping student voice and contributing positively to the wider school community.

### Student Shout Out

Year 12 – Charlotte - For her continued hard work and commitment to her studies.

Year 13 – Chloe - For producing outstanding English coursework, which has been recognised by her teacher.

### Sixth Form in the Community



#### World Cancer Day

On Wednesday, the Sixth Form came together to raise awareness, show support, and remember everyone affected by cancer. Students took time to reflect on the importance of compassion, understanding, and standing together as a community, recognising the impact cancer has on individuals, families, and friends. It was a meaningful opportunity to show unity and support for an important cause.



### Rivers Sixth Form Applications - Year 11 Interviews Update

Year 11 interviews have now concluded, and students will be receiving their offer letters via their school email addresses. If you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact the Sixth Form Team, who will be happy to help.



### What's Coming Up

- Great Rivers Bake-off - Valentines Special - Friday 13th February
- Year 12 Work Experience - W/C 29th June 2026 - Upload to Unifrog
- Charlie Dix leading sessions on Finance and Future Careers
- LGBTQ+ Month
- House competitions
- Summer Ball 3rd July 2026



### Bring Your Own Device (BYOD)

Rivers Sixth Form operates a Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) policy. The laptop trolley has been removed from the Sixth Form area, meaning students will need to bring their own devices into Sixth Form sooner than planned. If any students do not currently have access to a laptop or suitable device, please speak to a member of the Sixth Form team so that appropriate support can be arranged. Alternatively there are 10 laptops available in the LRC for Sixth Form students to rent for the day.

# RIVERS SIXTH FORM

## **Exam Behaviour & JCQ Regulations**

As we approach the exam season, it's important to remember the expectations for behaviour during all exams. To ensure a smooth and fair exam experience, students must adhere to the JCQ (Joint Council for Qualifications) regulations, which are in place to maintain integrity and fairness for all candidates.

### **Key points to remember:**

**Arrive on time:** Make sure you arrive at least 15 minutes before the exam starts. Late arrivals can lead to complications, and in some cases, may not be allowed to sit the exam.

**Clear water bottle:** Only clear, unlabelled bottles are permitted in the exam room. No labels or logos are allowed on the bottle, and the bottle should be free from any writing or stickers.

**Prohibited items:** Phones, smartwatches, or any electronic devices must be turned off and left in your bag, which should be placed at the back of the exam room. Only pens, pencils, and necessary equipment should be on your desk.

**Respect and Focus:** It is essential to maintain a calm, respectful environment for everyone in the exam hall. Please follow the instructions given by the invigilators, remain focused, and take the time to carefully read all instructions. Following these regulations is vital for a smooth exam experience and for your success in the upcoming assessments. Let's all do our part to ensure that everything runs smoothly!

## **Sixth Form Dress Code**

We would like to take a moment to recognise our students who have gone above and beyond in following the new Sixth Form dress code – we are very proud of how smart and professional they all look. Thank you for setting such a positive example.


Please continue to follow the dress code carefully, and if you are ever unsure about what is appropriate, don't hesitate to check with the Sixth Form team.

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

## **Exams/Study**

Mrs Penberthy will continue to host an optional revision session in the Sixth Form area titled "Pemboodle's Revision". She provides snacks and light background music to create a warm and inviting environment. This session will run every Wednesday 3:20 - 4:20pm.

### **The Rivers Sixth Form Team**

 [mwilkins@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk](mailto:mwilkins@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk)

 [sixthform@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk](mailto:sixthform@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk)

 Absent reporting to Mrs Penberthy: 01621 787882

 Follow us on Instagram: @RiversSixthForm

 Visit: [www.ormistonriversacademy.co.uk](http://www.ormistonriversacademy.co.uk)



# Catering



## Menu

We have pleasure of enclosing a link to next weeks [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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:lwarner@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk) or Angela Mahoney, Finance & Business Director [amahoney@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://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

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. Our 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](mailto: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.



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with Mid and South Essex  
Health & Care Academy



The Health & Care Academy is working with Medical Mavericks to provide a fantastic hands on workshop where you can explore careers in the NHS whilst getting the opportunity to practice your skills and take basic medical obs!



## Activities include...

- Record and print an ECG from your heart
- Use a needle to take fake blood from a dummy arm
- Try your hand at keyhole surgery
- See inside your body with an ultrasound machine.
- Scan your retina with a ophthalmoscope.
- Listen to your pulse with a pulse doppler.
- See your veins under a vein scanner.
- Take basic medical obs.



This opportunity is available to students in Years 10 - 13, who are thinking of a career in healthcare.

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> February  
2026  
(am) 9.30am - 12pm



Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> February  
2026  
(pm) 1pm - 3.30pm



Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup>  
February 2026  
(am) 9.30am - 12pm



Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup>  
February 2026  
(pm) 1pm - 3.30pm





**Spring Term**

# The Essex SEND Local Offer Roadshows

Are you a parent or carer of a young person with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) aged 0 to 25? Do you want to know what support is available in your area? Come along to one of our Essex SEND Local Offer Roadshows.

You can chat with teams from Education, Health and Social Care, as well as local support groups and activity providers.



The marketplace is free and there is no need to book. Children are welcome!



Drop in between 9:30am and 12:30pm



This term we are in Chelmsford, Harlow, Colchester and Basildon



Scan the QR Code for all the information, including dates and venues or visit the Essex Local Offer at:

<https://send.essex.gov.uk/i-think-my-child-needs-help/essex-local-offer-roadshows>

In Partnership with







**Essex County Council**

## **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 19<sup>th</sup> August 2024.

### **Who may be fined?**

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

For example: 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'.



## 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.

1 – [www.Go4schools.com](http://www.Go4schools.com) through any web browser.



Ormiston  
**RIVERS**  
Academy

GO 4 Schools

Starter version Modules MIS Engage/CPD

Login

Contact us

Schools login

Students login

Parents login

Governors login

MAT login

## Welcome to GO 4 Schools

Your school can make better decisions with information that is accurate, up to date, complete,

- 2 Select Parents Login
- 3 Click First-time user
- 4 Enter email address registered with Ormiston Rivers
- 5 Click New password
- 6 Select Sign in to Parent Site
- 7 Open link sent to personal email address entered and activate account
- 8 Set your Go4Schools password
- 9 Sign in

Overview

**Attendance** live percentage for the academic year (24hr update).

Attendance

**Behaviour** positive and negative points.

Behaviour

**Homework** see what homework has been set.

Homework

**Inbox** messages from the school will be displayed here.

Inbox

**Progress** grades for assessments taken over the academic year.

Progress

**Reports** Annual written communication including strengths and next steps.

Reports

**Timetable** full academic timetable.

Timetable

GO Sign in with GO First-time user? Forgotten Password?

If you have forgotten your password, you can reset it by entering your email address.

Email address

Send password reset link

## Forgotten Password

If you have forgotten your password, click 'Forgotten your Password' which is located just below the sign in option.

Enter your school email address and a password reset will be emailed to your school account.





## G4S App Login

1 – Download the app.



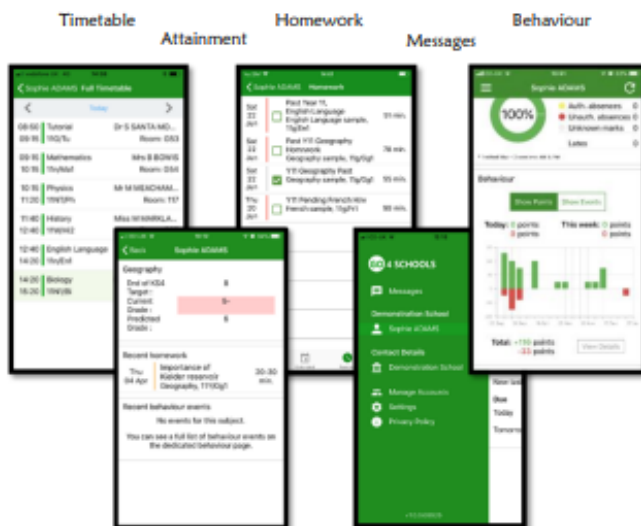
[Click here](#)

[Click here](#)

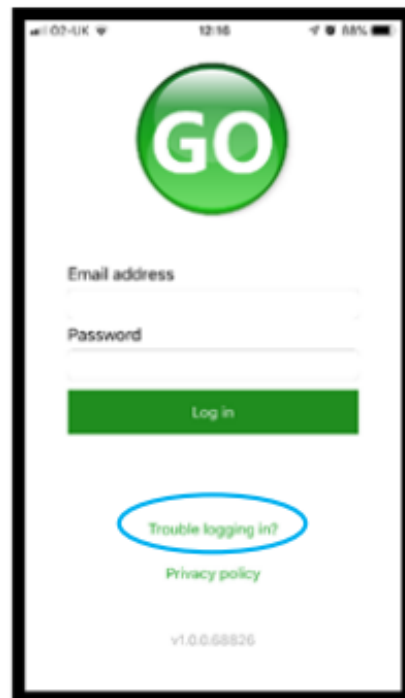
2 – Type in your school email address.

3 – Type in your password.

This is the password you have already set in go4schools.



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Academy



### FORGOTTEN YOUR PASSWORD?

If you have forgotten your password, click 'Trouble logging in?'

This will open the web browser where you will click forgotten password.

Type in your school email address and click 'Send password reset link.'

Open Outlook from Office 365 (your school email) and you will have received an email from Go4schools that include instructions on how to reset your password.