



Message from the Principal

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week at Rivers has been both productive and purposeful, with the examination period now firmly underway across the academy. Our Year 11 and Year 13 students have shown real focus and determination and it has been particularly encouraging to see such strong attendance at the morning warm-up sessions in the canteen. These sessions are making a positive difference to students' confidence and readiness for their exams. Please do be assured that we are here to support them fully over the coming weeks and we will continue to do all we can to help them succeed.

We are also making steady progress with our transition to Arbor, our new, streamlined school management system. From Monday 18th May, staff will begin using Arbor to support the implementation of our behaviour systems, working alongside our established behaviour curriculum. This will further strengthen our approach to helping students understand and meet the expectations we have of them, both in the classroom and across the wider academy so that their learning remains protected. We will share further information before half term to explain how parents and carers will be able to access their child's information through Arbor.

We will be marking Mental Health Awareness Week. Assemblies this week have already provided students with valuable opportunities to reflect on their own wellbeing, increase awareness, reduce stigma and consider how they can support themselves and others. This is an important part of our wider commitment to supporting students both academically and personally.

Finally, I would like to revisit the issue of road safety at the front of the academy during drop-off and collection times. Despite previous communication, we are still seeing some parents and carers parking in the designated drop-off zone. This can create potentially unsafe situations, particularly when other vehicles are unable to move away safely. If you do need to wait, or if you are visiting the academy, we would please ask that you use the visitor parking spaces opposite the drop-off area or the main school car park. We appreciate that this may require a small adjustment, but it is essential in helping us keep all members of our community safe.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. It is genuinely valued and plays a vital role in ensuring our school community continues to thrive.

Warm regards,

**Dijana Piralic
Principal (Interim)**



Dates for your Diary

Friday 22 May 2026

Confirmation of Year 9 Options

Monday 25 May – Friday 29 May 2026

Half Term Holiday

Monday 29 June – Friday 3 July 2026

Year 12 Work Experience

Wednesday 1 July 2026

Staff INSET Day – academy closed to students

Tuesday 7 July 2026

Y11 Prom

Tuesday 14, Wednesday 15, Thursday 16 July 2026

Cym & Dance Show

Monday 20th July - Friday 24th July

Year 10 Work Experience

Monday 20th July 2026

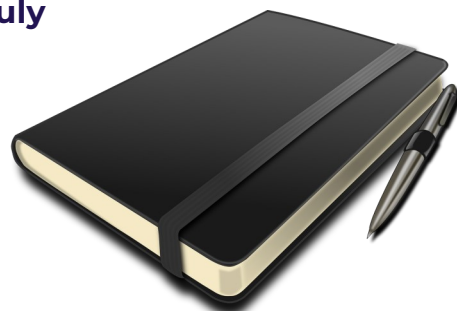
Academy Sports Day

Tuesday 21st July 2026

Year Group Trips

Wednesday 22nd July 2026

Academy closes at 1.50pm for Summer Holiday





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
7A2

Year 9
9D1

Year 8
8A2

Year 10
10M1



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



Teaching Behaviours

Mental Health Awareness Week

Our assembly focus this week, we came together to mark Mental Health Awareness Week which is next week, an important annual event dedicated to raising awareness, reducing stigma, and encouraging everyone to look after their mental wellbeing. Through a series of assemblies, students had the opportunity to reflect on what mental health means and how we can support both ourselves and those around us.



What is Mental Health Awareness Week?

Mental Health Awareness Week is a nationwide initiative that shines a spotlight on mental health and promotes positive conversations about emotional wellbeing. It reminds us that mental health is just as important as physical health. Everyone experiences ups and downs, and taking time to understand our feelings and build healthy habits can make a big difference to our overall happiness and resilience.

During our assemblies, we explored how mental health affects thoughts, feelings, and behaviour. We also highlighted that it's completely normal to feel stressed, anxious, or overwhelmed at times—especially during busy school periods. The key message was clear: no one is alone, and support is always available.

Key Messages from Our Assemblies

Students were encouraged to think about simple, practical ways they can take care of their mental health:

- **Talk to someone you trust:** Whether it's a friend, teacher, or family member, sharing how you feel can help lighten the load.
- **Be kind to yourself and others:** Small acts of kindness can have a big impact.
- **Know when to seek support:** It's okay to ask for help when things feel difficult.

Tips for Staying Mentally Healthy

One important topic we discussed was how daily habits can influence mental wellbeing. Here are a few key strategies students can try:

Reduce Screen Time - Spending too much time on phones, gaming consoles, or social media can sometimes affect sleep and mood. Taking regular breaks from screens—especially before bedtime—can help improve focus and energy levels. Try setting limits or having “screen-free” periods during the day.

Enjoy a Hobby - Doing something you enjoy is a great way to relax and recharge. Whether it's sports, music, art, reading, or cooking, hobbies give you a sense of achievement and enjoyment outside of schoolwork.

Stay Active - Physical activity is proven to boost mood and reduce stress. Even a short walk, team practice, or a game with friends can make a big difference.

Get Enough Sleep - A good night's sleep helps improve concentration, memory, and emotional wellbeing. Aim for a consistent sleep routine where possible.

Take Time to Relax - Simple activities like listening to music, mindfulness, or spending time outdoors can help you feel calmer and more balanced.

Looking Ahead

Mental Health Awareness Week may only last a few days, but the message continues all year round. Looking after our mental health is an ongoing journey, and as a school community, we are committed to supporting one another every step of the way.

Let's continue to look out for each other, speak openly about how we feel, and make positive choices that support our wellbeing.

Club Zero

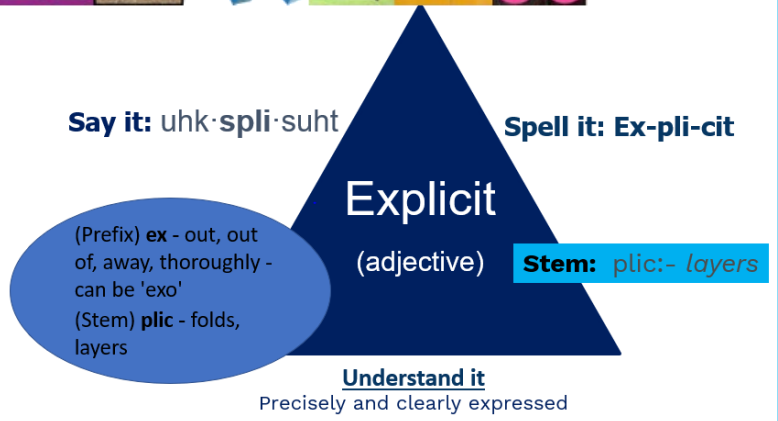
We celebrate Club Zero next Friday too. To those students with zero negative points and/or zero days off!! We regularly see 500 students in non-uniform and students should be proud of their achievements this half term.



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 **"Explicit"**.

Why not have a go? Send the definition and the word in a sentence to wotw@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk.



Say it: uhk·spli·suht **Spell it:** Ex·pli·cit

Explicit
(adjective)

(Prefix) **ex** - out, out of, away, thoroughly - can be 'exo'
(Stem) **plíc** - folds, layers

Stem: plíc;- layers

Understand it
Precisely and clearly expressed



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.




INSPIRING FUTURE Canal & River Trust

COULD YOU HELP PROTECT OUR CANALS?
Invasive species are taking over our waterways – damaging wildlife, water quality and the ecosystem. It's time for your ideas to make a difference!

YOUR MISSION: Design a practical and creative solution to help manage invasive species!

AMAZING PRIZES!
1st Place: STEM related class trip up to £500
2nd Place: £250 STEM resources voucher
3rd Place: £100 STEM resources voucher
PRIZES: All participating students receive a digital participation certificate. Prizes will be awarded to the supervising school or group.

CHOOSE YOUR ROUTE:

- 1. BUILD SOMETHING**
Design a plan for action and connections to work together to monitor or manage the issue.
- 2. CHANGE BEHAVIOUR**
Design an awareness campaign - posters, videos, social media, or a written code of conduct.
- 3. ORGANISE ACTION**
Create a plan for action and connections to work together to monitor or manage the issue.

INFORMATION SESSION WEDNESDAY MAY 20 **LUNCH TIME IN S04** **BE PART OF THE SOLUTION!**

INTERESTED? SEE MR WILLIAMS IN S04 FOR MORE INFORMATION!

OPEN TO STUDENTS FROM YEAR 7 TO 13

Let's protect our waterways for wildlife, our communities and the future!



MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS WEEK

♡ = BE KIND TO YOUR MIND = ♡

2026

This week, Ormiston Rivers Academy proudly supported Mental Health Awareness Week, an important national campaign that encourages us all to reflect on the importance of positive mental health, emotional wellbeing and supporting one another. The week provided a valuable opportunity for students and staff to open conversations, strengthen connections and remind everyone that it is always okay to ask for help.

Across the academy, year groups took part in a range of meaningful activities designed to encourage reflection, kindness and community spirit. Students spent time meeting with others within their year groups through activities such as shared lunches with their SSA, open discussions and creative projects including decorating doors and wellbeing walls with positive messages. Our Year 7 students also took part in a thoughtful reflection activity where they wrote letters to themselves about the positives and challenges of their first year at secondary school, alongside setting personal goals and aspirations for next year.

On Thursday, the Sixth Form team proudly wore green in support of the national "Wear It Green Day" campaign. Green is recognised as the international colour for mental health awareness and wearing it helps spark conversations, reduce stigma and show support for anyone experiencing mental health difficulties. It was wonderful to see our students and staff coming together to promote such an important message across the school community.

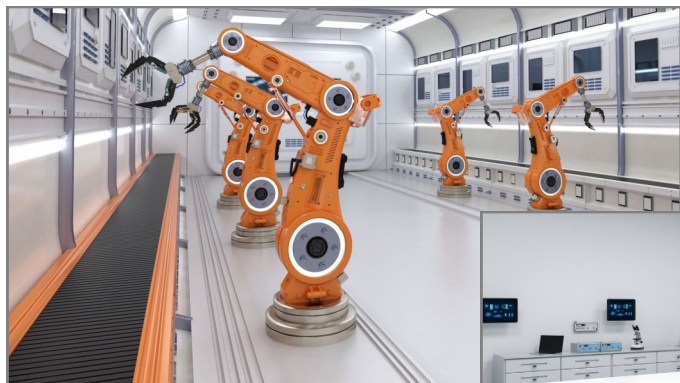




Careers Spotlight

Career of the week

Robotics Technician



Year 7,8, 9 and 10 - Take Your Child to Work Day - Wednesday 1st July INSET DAY

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. Your help is greatly appreciated in helping to organise this for them. We hope a day can be arranged on Wednesday 1st July. 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.

Careers Adviser - Fliss Compton

Fliss is available for Careers Meetings on Wednesdays - if you would like your child to have a careers meeting please email on fcompton@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk



Is your child not in school right now?

Join our Calm, Connected and Confident sessions!

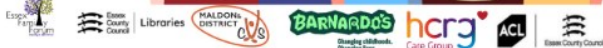
They are for families whose children are not currently in school and are working with their school to explore the right support or next steps. Sessions provide a safe, supportive space to attend together, helping children feel calm, build confidence, and stay connected during a time that can feel overwhelming.

Parents and carers need to stay.

Location	Date	Time (Ages 5-11)	Time (Ages 11+)
Witham Library	Tuesday 19/5/26	10-11.30am	12-1.30pm
Maldon Library	Friday 22/5/26	10-11.30am	12-1.30pm
Burnham Library	Tuesday 2/6/26	10-11.30am	12-1.30pm

No need to book. Just pop along

Free activities
Badge making
Social gaming
Arts and crafts



Your community and Volunteering Opportunities - Are you interested in being involved in a community group? Would you like to develop your own group and work in partnership with your local Family Hub? ...

Early Support - 0-19 years - We have staff available Monday - Friday who can provide advice and support for 0-19 years and their families in our local community. ...

Developmental Reviews - All children will be offered a 9-12 month and a 2 1/2 - 3-year development review. You will be contacted to book this appointment. ...

Healthy start vouchers - If you're more than 10 weeks pregnant or have a child under 4, the Healthy Start scheme can help you buy healthy foods like milk or fruit and get free vitamins. ...



Bookstart-BookTrust Bookstart - Bookstart aims to encourage a love of books, stories and rhymes in children from as young an age as possible. ...

HOME START Essex - help families from all backgrounds, with at least one child under the age of 5, through their most challenging times. ...

www.essexfamilywellbeing.co.uk
0300 2470014

Maldon Family Hub - Maldon District



Essex Child and Family Wellbeing Service

Maldon District: April - June 2026

Welcome to your local family hub, where you can access free, friendly and high-quality health services in your community, school, online or family home. ...

Family Hubs ensure that children, young people and families (0-19 years or up to 25 years if SEND) can access integrated early support. ...

The focus of our service is making sure that everyone in Essex has the best possible start in life through meeting the identified needs of children, young people and families.

Maldon Family Hub

Maldon Library
Carmelite Way, Maldon
CM9 5FW
Monday to Friday 9 - 5pm

Chetwood Family Hub Delivery Site

Shireburn Vale
South Woodham Ferrers
CM3 5ZX
Monday & Thursday 9.30-4.30pm
Wednesday 9.30-12.30pm

Dengie Family Hub Delivery Site

Ormiston Rivers Academy
Southminster Road
Burnham on Crouch
CM0 8QB
Tuesday and Friday 9.30-4.30pm
Wednesday 12.30-4.30pm

Please note that buggies are not allowed into our sites and must be left outside.



Maldon Family Hub, Carmelite Way, CM9 5FW

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Drop-in support & self weigh 9.30am - 4.30pm	Drop-in support & self weigh 9.30am - 4.30pm	Drop-in support & self weigh 9.30am - 4.30pm	Drop-in support & self weigh 9.30am - 4.30pm	Drop-in support & self weigh 9.30am - 4.30pm

Development Reviews

9-12 months & 30-36 months 9.30am-3.30pm weekdays

An assessment of your child's growth and development. You will be contacted to book an appointment.

Antenatal infant feeding workshop (1hr)

This workshop is for expectant parents (28 weeks plus). It will provide you with advice and support around preparing for the arrival of your baby and infant feeding. ...

Let's Talk Together

Support for 18-30-month-old children with their early language development. 2-week course. Call for further information and to book.

NEW GROUP Little Explorers

A weekly group for families with children aged 9-18 months, to play and learn together, with simple ideas for home learning and helpful health advice.

Visit our Facebook page to find community toddler groups and events running across Maldon District



Essex Family Forum SEND Drop in

1st Friday of the month Starting Feb 6th 9.30am-11.30am (Term Time only) Come along to our friendly drop-in session where you can get information and signposting tailored to your SEND child. ...

ActiveEssex

Scan to find out how to get active for free in your community.



Healthy Start Vitamins

If you are pregnant or have a child aged under 4 years, then you may be eligible to receive free Healthy Start Vitamins. Visit www.healthystart.nhs.uk to check eligibility and apply. ...

Introducing Solids (Virtual Workshop)

2nd Wednesday of the month Support and advice on introducing solid food to your baby. Please call to book.

Pop in during our opening hours to access our free Community Wardrobe - clothes available for 0-5-year-olds.

Emotional regulation support For 5-11 years. Please call us for more information

Baby & Toddler Rhyme time

11.00am - 11.30am Maldon Library Stories and rhymes for under 5's - term time only. Please note that this is a group run by the library.

t: 0300 2470014

Essex County Council

Early help drop-in sessions

Weekly drop-in sessions - you can attend any session

This session is designed to give partners in Essex who work with children, young people & families the chance to: discuss anonymised cases, gain peer support, be signposted to advice & help to answer general questions.

These sessions are supported by our panel of subject experts from across the children's system including:

- Team Around the Family Support Officer (TAFSO)
- Inclusion Partners
- Essex Family Support Service
- Engagement Facilitators
- SENDIASS
- Attendance Specialists
- Essex Youth Service
- Peabody Outreach
- Essex Child & Family Wellbeing Service
- DWP
- and others

North Essex drop-in session Tuesday 15:30-16:30pm

Click here to join the meeting

Email (North) C&FPartnershipLeads@essex.gov.uk

South Essex drop-in session Wednesday 12:30-13:30pm

Click here to join the meeting

Email (South) C&FPartnershipLeads@essex.gov.uk

West Essex drop-in session Thursday 12:00-13:00pm

Click here to join the meeting

Email (West) C&FPartnershipLeads@essex.gov.uk

Mid Essex drop-in session Wednesday 12:00-13:05pm

Click here to join the meeting

Email (Mid) C&FPartnershipLeads@essex.gov.uk

Please note that the Mid Essex has an online booking system, where you are able to pre-book a slot to present a case. ...

These sessions DO NOT replace work undertaken by the Children & Families Hub as outlined in Effective Support for Children & Families in Essex

Dengie Family Hub Delivery Site, Ormiston Rivers Academy, Southminster Road, CM0 8QB

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	Drop-in support & self weigh 9.30am - 4.30pm	Drop-in support & self weigh 12.30pm - 4.30pm		Drop-in support & self weigh 9.30am - 4.30pm

Development Reviews

9-12 months & 30-36 months 9.30am-3.30pm Mondays, 12.30pm-3.30pm Wednesdays and 12.30pm-3.30pm Fridays

An assessment of your child's growth and development. You will be contacted to book an appointment.

SEND Support Group 0-19yrs

9.30am - 11.30am Term time only This group is run by SENDHALL, a local charity that support families who have children with diagnosed or undiagnosed Drop-in, gain support and there are a selection of toys available.

Development Reviews

9-12 months & 30-36 months 9.30am-3.30pm An assessment of your child's growth and development. You will be contacted to book an appointment.

Introducing Solids (Virtual Workshop)

2nd Wednesday of the month Support and advice on introducing solid food to your baby. Please call to book.

Healthy Start Vitamins

If you are pregnant or have a child aged under 4 years, then you may be eligible to receive free Healthy Start vitamins. Visit www.healthystart.nhs.uk to check eligibility and apply. ...

Baby Beginnings

10.00am - 11.30am Our weekly group helps parents and carers of babies aged 0-12 months get health advice, learn about their baby's development, enjoy fun activities and meet new people. ...

Health advice drop-in for 5-19 yr olds

3pm-4.30pm Drop-in and speak with a member of our team for issues around sleep, toileting, emotional wellbeing, healthy relationships and lifestyles. Open to all.

Let's Talk Together

Support for 18-30-month-old children with their early language development. 2-week course. Call for further information and to book.

Move with Us

Arrival between 3.15-3.30pm Ends 4.30pm Term time 29th April - 1st July A 9-week rolling programme for 5-11 yr olds. The sessions aim is encouraging movement and physical activity and to find out about activities that encourage movement in your local community. Younger siblings can attend but won't be able to participate

Pop in during our opening hours to access our free Community Wardrobe clothes available for 0-5-year-olds.

Emotional regulation support For 5-11 years. Please call us for more information

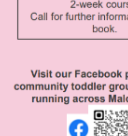
First Time Parents

Support for new parents/carers. 4-week course Please call for further details and to book.

Antenatal infant feeding workshop (1hr)

This workshop is for expectant parents (28 weeks plus). It will provide you with advice and support around preparing for the arrival of your baby and infant feeding. You will receive a letter inviting you.

Visit our Facebook page to find community toddler groups and events running across Maldon District



Let's Talk Together

Support for 18-30-month-old children with their early language development. 2-week course. Call for further information and to book.

Pop in during our opening hours to access our free Community Wardrobe clothes available for 0-5-year-olds.

Emotional regulation support For 5-11 years. Please call us for more information

Scan to find out how to get active for free in your community



t: 0300 2470014



Essex Child and Family Wellbeing Service



Mobile Community Wardrobe 2026

Pre-loved clothing for 0-16 year olds available for local families free of charge. Pop up sessions in the Maldon District.

No booking needed - just pop along!

Upcoming sessions for 2026

Plantation Hall, Colchester Rd, Heybridge, Maldon CM9 4AL

Friday 30th January

Friday 10th July

1.00pm-3.00pm

United Reform Church, 53 Station Road, Burnham-on-Crouch, CM0 8HF

Thursday 19th March

Thursday 17th September

2pm-4pm

t: 0300 247 0014

w: www.essexfamilywellbeing.co.uk

Tollesbury Masonic Hall, 38 East Street, Tollesbury, CM9 8QE

Wednesday 13th May

Wednesday 11th November

2pm-4pm

Commissioned by



School nurse drop-in

Come and have a confidential chat with your school nurse if you are worried about your health or would just like to find out more about how your school nurse can help you!

You can either just drop in or make an appointment using the contact details below.



hcrgrcaregroup.com



Intensive offer for children and young people (0-25)

The AOS offer intensive, specialist, and tailored support to autistic individuals and those on the neurodevelopmental pathway awaiting an autism assessment who are currently in a mental health hospital, or at risk of admission. Where appropriate, we also provide support to the family and the team leverage their extensive knowledge of the wider system to enhance the offer.

Get in touch

SET All Age Autism Outreach Service

B1, County Hall Market Road Chelmsford Essex CM1 1QH

t: 0300 247 0076

w: essexfamilywellbeing.co.uk

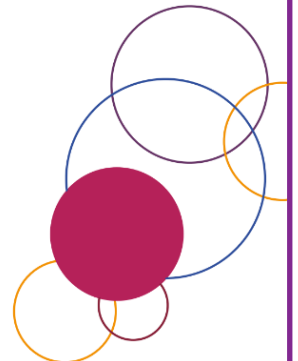
Or contact us via email: SETautismoutreachservice@hcrgrcaregroup.com



Service information guide

Southend, Essex, and Thurrock (SET) All Age Autism Outreach Service (AOS)

care.think.do
WE CHANGE LIVES BY TRANSFORMING HEALTH AND CARE



Core offer for children and young people (0-18)

The AOS provides tailored support to autistic individuals, and/or those currently on the neurodevelopmental pathway awaiting an autism assessment. We focus on specific needs and goals which may include managing co-occurring conditions; and addressing the impact of neurodiversity within families. We offer a range of interventions and access to facilitated and supervised peer support networks.

Core offer for adults (18+)

The AOS offers comprehensive support to autistic adults, addressing their unique challenges and promoting independence and well-being. Support is designed to address the specific challenges faced by autistic individuals in adulthood including the impact of late diagnosis, managing co-occurring conditions, sensory, and communication needs. We also offer access to peer support to enhance independence, self-reliance, social integration and community participation.

The AOS specialises in providing both practical and therapeutic intervention for autistic individuals, and professional consultation and training for those working alongside them. AOS includes clinical and non-clinical professionals and team members whose personal experience of living with autism enables them to offer peer support.

Our person-centred approach involves working closely with individuals to develop and implement customised support plans lasting between 3 and 12 months, with the service being offered 8am-8pm Monday to Saturday.

The Service aims to:

- Improve community-based support
- Develop a clearer and more widespread focus on the needs of autistic children, young people, and adults
- Ensure services are providing good quality health, care and treatment to autistic people and their families
- Champion the insight and strengths of people with lived experience and their families
- Support and help services to develop an awareness, and acceptance, of the needs of autistic people

The All Age Autism Outreach Service (AOS) offers tailored support to autistic individuals and those on the neurodevelopmental pathway awaiting an autism assessment.

The service consists of three core offerings.

- Specialist support for autistic children and young people and those on the neurodevelopmental pathway awaiting an autism assessment aged 0-18.
- Specialist support for autistic adults and those on the neurodevelopmental pathway awaiting an autism assessment aged 18+.
- Intensive support for autistic individuals at risk of hospitalisation, aged 0-25.




SARACENS
SUMMER RUGBY CAMP

29th-30th July
BURNHAM ON CROUCH RUFC



SARACENS JUNIOR RUGBY CAMPS

Saracens Rugby Camps provide a unique experience for young people that they will never forget.



10am - 3pm
U7-U14s
Age group as per start of 26/27 season
U7-U8s is half day

BOOK NOW!

<https://saracens.com/community/junior-rugby-camps/>



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TENNIS
WITH SOUTHMINSTER TENNIS CLUB

VARIETY OF MEMBERSHIPS
Including a summer special

CLUB SOCIALS
COACHING FOR ALL ABILITIES
TEAM MATCHES

INTRODUCTION TO TENNIS
Come and try sessions for just £2!
Saturday's from 2pm starting 16th May.
Scan the QR code for membership info and to book Intro to Tennis now! OR call us 07944 244727




SUNDAY 17TH MAY

SOUTHMINSTER
TENNIS CLUB
OPEN DAY
11AM-4PM

Meet the members

Have a go yourself

Fun games & Free raffle

FIND YOUR ACTIVE MALDON

Southminster Tennis Club,
King George V Playing Fields, Southminster,
CMO 7EW





Year 7 - Mr Adair

This week has been a truly positive and inspiring one for our Year 7 students, and we would like to take a moment to thank you, our parents and carers, for your continued hard work, support, and collaboration with the academy. Your partnership plays a crucial role in helping our students thrive, and we are grateful for the commitment you show every day.

It has been fantastic to see our students demonstrating such drive and determination across the week, particularly in PE lessons where they have shown real resilience and spirit—braving the rain without complaint and refusing to let the weather hinder their effort or enthusiasm. Their attitude has been commendable and reflects the strong character we continue to nurture in Year 7.

In Geography, students have been studying climate change, which has tied in brilliantly with the varied weather conditions we have been experiencing recently, helping them to make meaningful connections between their learning and the world around them.

Alongside this, students have also been engaged in recognising Mental Health Awareness Month, taking part in thoughtful and reflective activities during form time. One highlight has been the opportunity for students to write letters to their future selves, considering both their successes and challenges throughout Year 7 and setting out their hopes and aspirations for Year 8. This has encouraged meaningful self-reflection and has been a valuable reminder of the importance of wellbeing, resilience, and personal growth.

We are incredibly proud of how our Year 7 students have approached this week and look forward to building on this momentum as we move forward together.

Contact: cadair@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk



Year 8 - Mr Moon

This week in Year 8, our assembly focused on the important themes of mental health and the sense of belonging within a community. Students engaged thoughtfully with discussions around supporting one another, recognising when someone may need help, and understanding the value of feeling connected within our school environment. We also introduced Arbor, the new system that will be replacing Go 4 Schools, ensuring students are aware of how this will support their learning, organisation, and communication moving forward.

In English lessons, students have been continuing their study of Great Expectations by Charles Dickens, showing strong understanding and engagement as they completed assessments on Chapter 8 and developed their analytical skills.

It has also been another fantastic week of achievement across the year group, with excellent effort reflected in our merit totals.

Our top merit earners this week are:

Danny (8Z1) in 1st place with an outstanding 40 merits

Tristan (8M1) in 2nd place with 36 merits

and in joint 3rd place Archie (8A1) and Bella (8M1) with 30 merits each

Well done to all students for their continued hard work, and a special congratulations to Danny, who is not only our highest merit earner in Year 8 this week but across the entire school—a fantastic achievement.

I hope you all have a restful weekend and look forward to the last week before half term.

Many thanks

Year 8 team

Contact: smoon@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk



Year 9 – Mr Chapman

It has been great to see so many Year 9 students taking part in the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh expedition this weekend. Students have been hiking in the Bradwell area and camping, showing excellent commitment and resilience. Well done to everyone involved.

As we head into the final week of this half-term, we look forward to more consistent summer weather. While on duty during lunch on Wednesday, I had a clear view of students running to escape the hailstones and was very glad to be in doors. Hopefully we don't see a repeat this weekend for the sake of those of us camping.

Top Merits of the Week

Amelia (9A2)
Callie-Mai (9Z1)
Mia (9D1)

Top Merits of the Year So Far

Ava (9A2)
James (9D2)
Mia (9D2)

Wishing everyone has a restful and enjoyable weekend.

Contact: rchapman@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk



Year 10 - Mr Field

It has been a very positive week, and it has been a pleasure to see pupils working hard in lessons and speaking confidently about their learning.

During an English lesson observed this week, pupils demonstrated excellent focus and engagement. They were able to speak thoughtfully about their work and clearly explain their ideas. Danica and Isla wrote an insightful article exploring how teenage life is becoming more sedentary, clearly explaining the contributing factors. Radley and Jaydon produced balanced arguments about life in Wolverhampton, considering both positive and negative aspects.

Pupils in Mrs Maclean's class developed persuasive arguments about the impact of social media on society, thoughtfully considering its effects on people of all ages. It was fantastic to see such strong analytical and communication skills being developed across the year group.

I also had the pleasure of selecting the winning headline for Mrs Maclean class's article:

"Social media scandal sucking sense out of society"

A huge well done to Jack B for this creative and impactful piece of work.

During period 5 today, we celebrated over 70 pupils who have improved their attendance over the past year. It was wonderful to recognise their commitment and effort.

Attendance is a key factor in academic success, especially as Year 10 pupils now have just 51 weeks until the start of their GCSEs in 2027. Every lesson truly counts, and we encourage all pupils to continue striving for excellent attendance.

Contact: sfield@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk



Year 11 – Ms Taylor

It has been a busy week for Year 11, with many exams now under their belt. I am so proud of them for the way they have conducted themselves. Their punctuality to exams has been excellent.

Next week is another heavy week of exams:

Monday 18 May - Chemistry Paper 1 - 9am

Tuesday 19 May - English Literature Paper 2 - 9am

Tuesday 19 May - Child Development - 1pm

Tuesday 19 May - Computer Science - 1pm

Wednesday 20 May - Engineering - 9am

Wednesday 20 May - French - 1pm

Thursday 21 May - English Language Paper 1 - 9am

Thursday 21 May - Business Studies - 1pm

Friday 22 May - Health & Fitness - 1pm.

Wishing them all luck next week.

Contact: staylor@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk



RIVERS SIXTH FORM

Year 12 & 13 - Mrs Wilkins

This week has been another busy and important one across Rivers Sixth Form. Yesterday, staff and students proudly wore green in support of Mental Health Awareness Week, helping to raise awareness of the importance of looking after our mental wellbeing, reducing stigma, and encouraging open conversations around mental health. Alongside this, Year 12 and Year 13 students have been working incredibly hard through internal assessments and examinations, with many more formal external exams beginning next week. We would also like to remind all students that they are expected to attend all lessons and directed study sessions between exams to ensure they continue to receive the support and guidance needed during this crucial period. Finally, we are very much looking forward to celebrating our Year 13 students at the Leavers' Assembly next Friday as we reflect on their time at Rivers Sixth Form and wish them success for the future.

Student Shout Out

Year 12 – James M - A huge well done to for excelling across his subjects and making excellent use of his study time to revise.

Year 13 – Soloman B - For his outstanding dedication to revision, staying late every evening to give himself the best possible chance of achieving his very best in his exams.

Sixth Form in the Community

This week we were also delighted to announce our new Sixth Form Leadership Team. Already, the students have thrown themselves into their new roles with enthusiasm, professionalism, and a real commitment to the wider school community. We are excited to work alongside them over the next year as they help lead initiatives, support younger students, and continue to make a positive impact across Ormiston Rivers Academy.

Teaching & Learning	Social Media & Events	Well-Being	Equality & Diversity	Community & Enrichment	Environment Study Area
DGI	TPE	KGO	KGO	DMA	AMA
Lead: Joseph Nelson	Lead: Annie Archer	Lead: Charlotte Busby	Lead: Connie Lance	Lead: Jack Griffiths	Lead: Bobbi Cook
Deputy: Fraser Garret	Deputy: James Martin	Deputy: Summer Lock	Deputy: Ellie Nunn	Deputy: Molly Hooper	Deputy: Charlotte Rigler
	Deputy: Poppy Wilson				
YEAR 11	YEAR 12	YEAR 7	YEAR 8	YEAR 10	YEAR 9



RIVERS SIXTH FORM

Year 13 Leavers Information

Full attendance to all timetabled lessons is expected over the next week as students prepare for their final exams. Please note that PSHE sessions have now concluded, and Monday tutor time will be given back to students to support their independent revision.

Assemblies will continue during this period as detailed below. As part of our celebrations, students are invited to send in photos capturing friendships and memories from their time at Ormiston - please see email sent.

The remaining assemblies will include:

1. Life Skills 101
2. Leavers' Assembly - 1:30pm in the main hall on Friday 22nd May

We look forward to supporting and celebrating our Year 13 students over the coming weeks as they approach the end of their Sixth Form journey.

What's Coming Up

- Year 12 Work Experience - W/C 29th June 2026 - Upload to Unifrog
- Charlie Dix leading sessions on Finance and Future Careers
- House competitions
- Year 13 Leavers Assembly - Friday 22nd May 2026 1-3pm in the main hall
- Summer Ball 3rd July 2026 - letters coming out next week

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!



RIVERS SIXTH FORM

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.

Sixth Form Dress Code

As the weather begins to get warmer, we would like to remind all Sixth Form students to continue to adhere to the Sixth Form dress code. Thank you for maintaining the high standards expected within our Sixth Form community. 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 re-joining 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  sixthform@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk



Absent reporting to Mrs Penberthy: 01621 787882



Follow us on Instagram: @RiversSixthForm



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

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.



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 19th 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'.



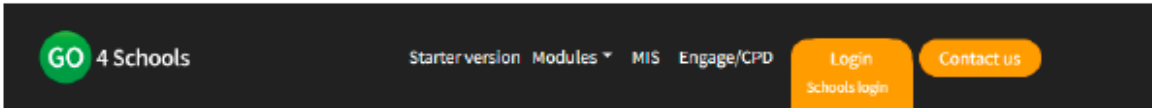
Parent / Carer Login

Go4Schools is an online platform providing parents and carers with live attainment, timetable, targets & attendance. This will also be where pupil reports are released.



Ormiston RIVERS Academy

1 – www.Go4schools.com through any web browser.



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

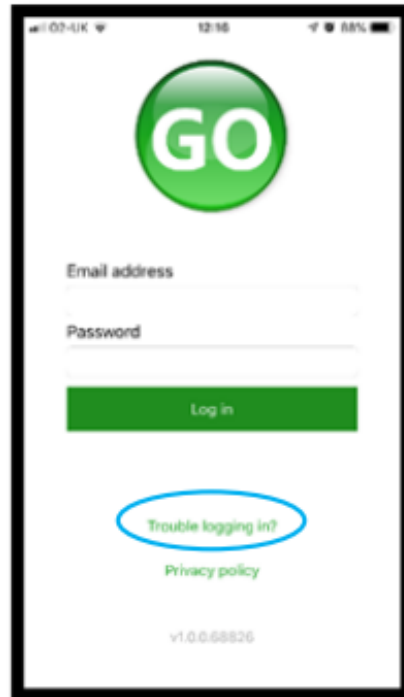
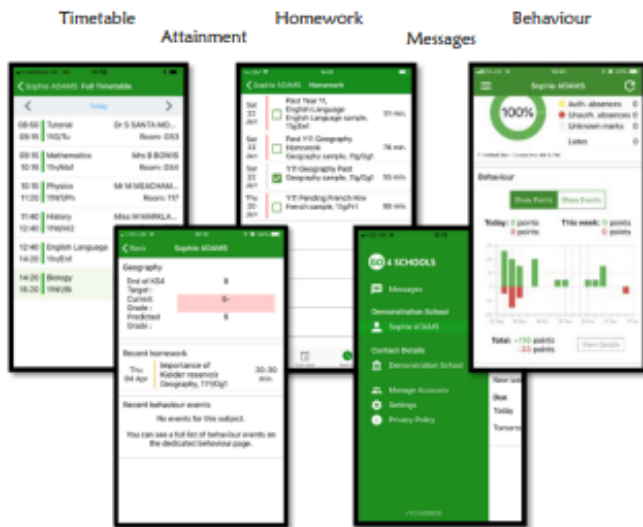
1 – Download the app.



[Click here](#)

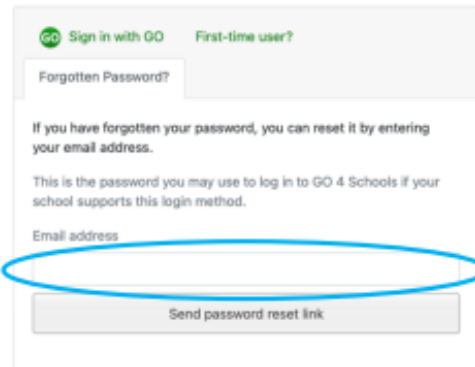
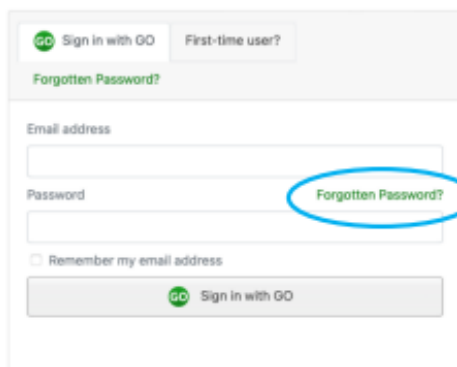
[Click here](#)

2 – Type in your school email address.
3 – Type in your password.
This is the password you have already set in go4schools.



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.