



Message from the Principal

Dear Parents and Carers,

A great start to the final half term, with all students visibly refreshed and relaxed after a period of fine weather.

It is now also that time of year when our Year 11 students reflect on their journey at Ormiston Rivers Academy and today, we marked this with a special Leavers' Celebration. This provided a wonderful opportunity for students to come together, share memories, and celebrate their time with us. They collected their leavers' hoodies, enjoyed ice lollies in the sunshine, and took part in the much-loved tradition of shirt signing, creating lasting memories with both friends and staff. We wish all our Year 11 students the very best of luck with the remainder of their exams and look forward to welcoming them back in August to collect their GCSE results.

This week, we have reminded students of our "hands-off" expectations, which are in place to ensure that everyone feels safe, respected and comfortable within the school environment. Students are encouraged to be mindful of personal space, avoid unnecessary physical contact and keep all interactions friendly and appropriate. These expectations help to support a calm and respectful atmosphere across the school and encourage positive relationships between students. As always, we appreciate your support in reinforcing these expectations by discussing them with your child at home.

We continue to focus on the importance of attendance, as regular attendance at school is essential for every child's success. Being in school each day gives students the best chance to learn, make progress and feel confident in their studies. Even missing small amounts of time can quickly add up and impact learning, friendships and overall wellbeing. Having reviewed our internal academic data, we continue to see a strong correlation between attendance and academic achievement: students who attend well, achieve well. Students with strong attendance are more likely to reach their full potential, build positive relationships with peers and staff and develop consistent routines and a strong sense of belonging within the school community. To recognise this, Principal Piralic's Positively Perfect Prize—a fantastic brand new bike—will be awarded to one student who has demonstrated excellent attendance. Each half term a student achieves 100% attendance earns them an entry into the prize draw, giving multiple chances to win, with the final draw taking place during our end-of-year assembly.

National Thank a Teacher Day takes place on Wednesday 17 June 2026. This annual celebration is a wonderful opportunity to recognise and thank the dedicated teachers and support staff who make such a positive difference to the children in our school. If a member of academy staff has made a meaningful impact on your child's learning or wellbeing. Please can I encourage you to show your appreciation by sending them a personalised e-card. You can do this by clicking this link: [Thank a Teacher Form - Thank a Teacher](#)

Thank you once again for your continued support.

Warm regards,

Dijana Piralic
Principal (Interim)



Dates for your Diary

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

Gym & Dance Show

Monday 20th July - Friday 24th July

Year 10 Work Experience

Monday 20th July 2026

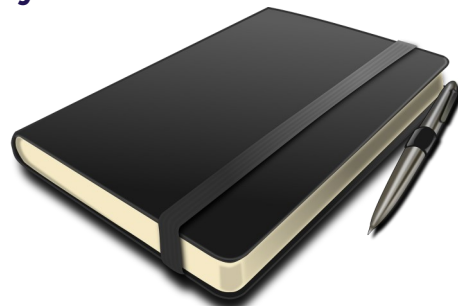
Academy Sports Day

Tuesday 21st July 2026

Year Group Trips

Wednesday 22nd July 2026

Academy closes at 1.50pm for Summer Holiday



Teaching Behaviours

Water Safety: An Important Conversation for Our Community

Following the very sad incidents nationally reported over the half-term break, we want to take a moment as a school community to highlight the importance of water safety. Our thoughts are with all those affected, and we feel it is essential that we work together to help keep our young people safe. Our assemblies next week will focus solely on this.

As the weather begins to improve, it is natural for children and teenagers to spend more time outdoors, often near rivers, lakes, or the coast. While these environments can be enjoyable, they also carry real and sometimes underestimated risks. We ask all parents and carers to have an open and honest conversation with their child about staying safe around water.



Why these conversations matter

Many accidents happen not because young people intend to take risks, but because they underestimate the dangers. Cold water, hidden currents, sudden drops, and slippery edges can quickly turn a fun situation into a dangerous one. Teenagers, in particular, may be more inclined to take dares, follow peers, or seek excitement, especially during warm weather. Reinforcing clear safety messages at home can make a significant difference.

Understanding cold water shock

One of the most serious dangers is cold water shock, which can occur even on a warm day. Natural water in the UK is often much colder than it appears.

When someone suddenly enters cold water:

- The body triggers an involuntary gasp reflex, which can lead to inhaling water
- Breathing becomes rapid and difficult to control
- Heart rate and blood pressure increase sharply
- Muscles can become weak or uncoordinated

This means even strong swimmers can quickly get into trouble. Within minutes, cold water can affect movement and decision-making, and prolonged exposure increases the risk of hypothermia.

Key safety messages to share with your child

Please encourage your child to:

- Never enter open water alone – always be with others and ensure someone knows where they are
- Avoid jumping or diving into unknown water – there may be hidden objects or shallow areas
- Stay away from edges – riverbanks, quarries, and docks can be slippery and unstable
- Respect warning signs and barriers – they are there to protect, not restrict
- Know what to do in an emergency – call 999 and ask for the appropriate rescue service

If they see someone in trouble

It is crucial that young people understand: **Do not jump in to rescue someone.**

Instead, they should:

- Call 999 immediately
- Look for something to throw or reach (e.g. a life ring, rope, or even a stick)
- Stay calm and keep themselves safe

Working together

We know these are difficult conversations to have, particularly in light of recent events, but they are essential. A few minutes spent discussing risks and expectations could help prevent a tragedy.

As always, we value your support in reinforcing these messages at home. If you would like further resources or guidance on water safety, please do not hesitate to contact the school. Let's work together to ensure our young people stay safe this summer.



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
7Z1

Year 9
9D2

Year 8
8Z1

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



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 **“Disruption”**.

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

Say it: duh·sruhp·shn **Spell it:** Dis-rup-tion

Disruption
(noun) **Stem:** rupt – break / burst

Understand it
The process of interrupting an activity, stop it from happening properly.

(Prefix) **dis** - away, separation, not, reverse
(Stem) **rupt** - break, burst
(Suffix) **tion** - act, process, result of



KidsIngo
TRIP TO SPAIN EXPERIENCE
An action-packed & fun day of Spanish for PRIMARY and SECONDARY schools!

The pupils will:

- Enter through passport control.
- 'Fly' to Spain.
- Order an ice cream at the ice cream stall.
- Shop at the souvenir stall.
- Dress up in a Spanish photobooth.
- Write a postcard and post in a Spanish postbox.
- Discuss traditional Spanish food.

We are excited to announce a ‘Visit Spain’ experience here at Ormiston Rivers Academy on Wednesday 24th June.

Students will be emerged for an hour into a guided Spanish speaking experience. This event has been carefully designed to engage students, through clever use of props, music and engaging activities with a specialist Spanish-speaker. The experience has also been developed to meet a number of areas of the National Curriculum such as:

- ✓ listen attentively to spoken language and show understanding by joining in and responding
- ✓ engage in conversations; ask and answer questions; express opinions and respond to those of others; seek clarification and help
- ✓ speak in sentences, using familiar vocabulary, phrases and basic language structures □ develop accurate pronunciation and intonation so that others understand when they are reading aloud or using familiar words and phrases
- ✓ foster pupils’ curiosity and deepen their understanding of the world
- ✓ communicate for practical purpose

This hour-long event is offered on 24th June to all year 8 & year 9 Spanish learners and will be performed in the school hall. Please be aware this session will be offered for £10 per student on a first-come-first-serve basis and can be paid on ParentPay.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us.



Performing Arts News

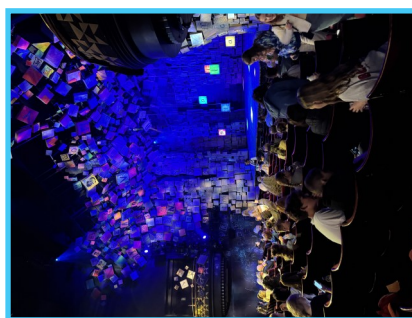
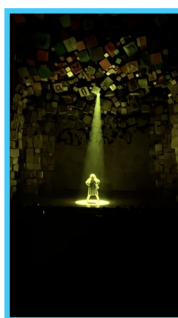


On Tuesday, our Year 7 students enjoyed an unforgettable trip to London's West End to see the spectacular Matilda the Musical.

From the incredible performances and dazzling choreography to the memorable songs and storytelling, students were completely captivated from start to finish. It was a fantastic opportunity to experience live theatre at its very best and gain a deeper appreciation of the performing arts.

We were incredibly proud of all our students, whose behaviour, enthusiasm, and maturity were exemplary throughout the evening. They were a real credit to the academy and represented us brilliantly.

Watch this space for more trips to the West End and we look forward to our trip to see Beetlejuice The Musical in September!



We are excited to announce an upcoming concert as part of The Burnham Art Trail. The concert is at St Mary's Church on Tuesday 23rd June at 6.30pm. There will be a range of pop/rock/musical theatre and classical performances by our students, along with some pieces from Burnham Primary and St Mary's C of E school. Tickets can be purchased on the Burnham Art Trail website under 'What's On'

There will be light refreshments available also. We look forward to seeing you there!

www.burnhamarttrail.co.uk



HOBBY CLUB

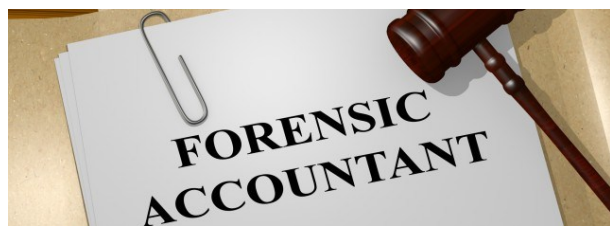
Don't forget that Hobby Club is open to all students in years 7, 8 and 9 on Fridays in D05. We have some things for you to do, but please feel free to make suggestions or bring in your own hobby to share with the group.



CAREERS
WORK
JOB

Careers Spotlight

Job of the Week



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.

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



BURNHAM ON CROUCH PARKRUN

Come and join us for a local parkrun
on **Saturday the 27th of June.**
It'll be great to see as many students
(and parents) as possible taking on the course.
It will also double up as a house competition!

parkrun

START

DETAILS



Saturday 27th of June



8.40am meet at Millfields CM0 8HS



Please wear PE kit

For details on how to register,
please follow

<https://www.parkrun.org.uk/burnhamoncrouch/>





Ormiston
RIVERS
Academy

Weekly
Newsletter

Issue # 32 - 4th June 2026



Ormiston
RIVERS
Academy

DO YOU HAVE ANY **SPARE** **CRICKET** **EQUIPMENT?**

we'd be very grateful for any old equipment, particularly bats to help us with lessons and competitive matches.

If you are able to help, please drop any donations off to main reception



Thank you very much ~ Mr Clay

Community - Ambition - Resilience - Respect - Excellence



Year 7 - Mr Adair

This week, our Year 7 students have had much to celebrate, marking a fantastic and positive start to the final half-term of the academic year. It has been incredibly rewarding to see how much they have grown in confidence, maturity, and independence since joining us. Across lessons and around the school, our Year 7 cohort are now truly demonstrating that they are ready to embrace the challenges and expectations that come with progressing into Year 8.

A particular highlight of the week was our exciting theatre trip to the Cambridge Theatre in London on Tuesday evening, where a group of our Year 7 students had the opportunity to watch the phenomenal production of Matilda the Musical. The experience was thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended. Students represented the school impeccably throughout the visit—we received compliments on their exemplary behaviour, both during the coach journey and while in the theatre. They were courteous, respectful, and engaged, showing genuine appreciation for the performers and the production. It was a pleasure to see them taking part in such a memorable cultural experience, and they should all be extremely proud of how they conducted themselves.

Back in school, our Year 7 students have continued to impress in their lessons—particularly in Art this week. I have had the pleasure of witnessing some truly outstanding work, with students demonstrating creativity, focus, and growing technical skills. They have been experimenting with a wide range of media, including pastels, colouring pencils, paint, and watercolours, to produce vibrant and imaginative pieces. The standard of work has been incredibly high, and it is clear that many students are developing a real passion for artistic expression. Keep up the fantastic effort!

As we continue through this final half-term leading into summer, I would like to take this opportunity to remind both students and parents about the importance of maintaining our high standards, particularly regarding uniform. All students are expected to arrive at school in full and correct uniform each day. This includes wearing appropriate footwear, school ties, school blazers, and ensuring shirts are tucked in with top buttons fastened. These expectations help to promote a sense of pride, belonging, and readiness for learning, and we appreciate your ongoing support in upholding them.

Overall, it has been a wonderful week for Year 7, filled with achievement, creativity, and positive attitudes. We look forward to building on this momentum in the coming weeks and continuing to celebrate the successes of this fantastic group of students.

Well done, Year 7—keep striving for excellence!

Contact: cadair@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk



Year 8 - Mr Moon

Welcome back to the final half term of Year 8 – it is hard to believe how quickly the year has gone! This last stretch is an important one, as we look to finish the year positively and ensure students leave Year 8 ready to be strong role models moving forward.

In our first assembly back, we focused on attitude, expectations and taking accountability. Students were reminded of the importance of setting high standards for themselves, making the right choices, and acting as positive role models for others within the school community. As we move through this half term, we will continue to emphasise these themes, encouraging students to take pride in their actions and their contributions to Year 8.

In lessons, students have made a strong start to their new topics. In Geography, they are exploring the Foundations of the Earth, with a focus on rocks and weathering, building their understanding of how our planet is formed and shaped over time. In Music, students are beginning Samba Drumming, which is already proving to be an engaging and energetic unit that we are sure students will enjoy.

The attendance race has also begun again for this half term. After winning the previous competition, Year 8 now has a target on our backs as the reigning champions. It is vital that we rise to this challenge. Currently, our attendance sits at 85.8%, which is 10% below our target of 95% and 5% below the whole school average. This is a key area for improvement. Being in school every day is crucial for maintaining progress, building routines, and ensuring students do not miss out on valuable learning opportunities. We would really appreciate the continued support of parents and carers in helping to improve attendance across the year group.

We are looking forward to a positive and successful final half term, with students demonstrating excellent attitudes, strong commitment to their learning, and pride in being part of Year 8.

Many thanks

Year 8 team

Contact: smoon@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk



Year 9 – Mr Chapman

We have had a positive first week back, and it has been encouraging to see so many Year 9 students earning merits and engaging well in their lessons.

Options letters have been distributed today, and we have now finalised our class lists and capacity for next year. This allows us to begin planning for GCSE courses with confidence and clarity.

I would also like to highlight an upcoming in-school experience for Spanish on 24th June. This “Trip to Spain” experience is particularly suitable for students who have chosen Spanish for next year, or for those who may be travelling to a Spanish-speaking country in the future. During the day, students will practise key phrases and take part in role play activities covering real-life situations such as passport control, ordering food, and purchasing souvenirs. The experience costs £10 and is available to book via ParentPay. It will take place during the school day, so no additional arrangements are required.

Top merits this week:

- Ava (9A2)
- Reece (9D2)
- Elacy-Raye (9A1)

Top merits so far this year:

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

Well done to all students for a strong start to the term.

Contact: rchapman@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk



Year 10 - Mr Field

It has been fantastic to welcome Year 10 back for the first week of the final half term. With only a year to go until GCSEs, this is a really important period, and pupils have returned with a positive attitude and a clear focus on finishing the year strongly.

This week's assembly focused on expectations, reminding pupils of the standards we must all uphold in order to be successful. We reinforced our core messages of being ready, respectful and responsible in every lesson and around the school site.

Key reminders from the assembly included:

- Being prepared for learning – arriving on time with the correct equipment
- Maintaining high standards of behaviour both in lessons and during social times
- Showing respect to staff, peers, and the school environment
- Taking responsibility for their own progress, particularly as we move closer to Year 11

Pleasingly, many pupils have started the half term in a positive manner, demonstrating maturity and a clear understanding of what is expected of them. It is important that this continues, as strong habits now will make a significant difference in the months ahead.

As always, we appreciate the ongoing support from parents and carers in reinforcing these expectations at home. Working together, we can ensure that all pupils make the most of this crucial stage in their education.

Top positive points earners this week :

Oliver C, Lorna L, Braydon P, Henson H, Owen L, Mason L, Thomas O, Erin R, Bradan D, Adele R, Jamie A and Jack B.

Well done to you all and keep up the good work!

Contact: sfield@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk

Year 11 – Ms Taylor

From next week there are the following exams:

Monday 8 June - Combined Science/Biology - 9am

Monday 8 June - Creative iMedia - 1pm

Wednesday 10 June - Maths - 9am

Thursday 11 June - Geography - 9am

Thursday 11 June - Music Technology - 1pm

Friday 12 June - Combined Science/Chemistry - 9am.

Friday 12 June - Hospitality & Catering - 1pm

Monday 15 June - Combined Science/Physics - 9am

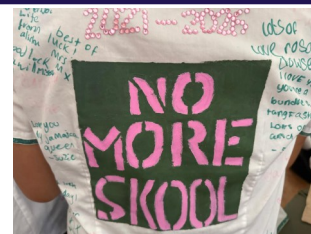
Monday 15 June - Further Maths - 1pm

Contact: staylor@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk



Year 11 Leavers Celebrations

As the exams are nearing an end, we spent this afternoon with the Year 11, as full cohort, for the very last time. We started the afternoon with shirt signing and ice lollies by the staff car park, where we saw just how creative some of our Year 11 students could be with how they decorated their leavers shirts. We then moved into the hall where students were greeted with photos of when they joined Rivers in Year 7. There were amazing performances from Alissa (11D1) and Sam (11D1) and several very funny awards were handed out from various categories including 'most likely to be a millionaire' to 'most likely to marry and footballer'. The students conducted themselves amazingly and it was a real pleasure spending the afternoon with them. I hope they enjoyed it as much as myself and Miss Turnnidge did.





RIVERS SIXTH FORM

Year 12 & 13 - Mrs Wilkins

Welcome back to the final half term of the academic year for our Year 12 students. We have started the week with an exciting new chapter as students moved into their career-focused tutor groups, providing opportunities to develop valuable skills, explore future pathways and prepare for life beyond Sixth Form. Our Year 13 tutors will now be working closely with all students, helping them to make informed decisions about their next steps and aspirations.

We ended last half term on a real high with our fantastic Year 13 Leavers Celebration. It was a wonderful afternoon filled with awards, memories, laughter and reflection as we celebrated the achievements and journeys of this exceptional year group. Students enjoyed a buffet lunch, shared memorable moments from their time in Sixth Form and spent time celebrating alongside staff who have supported them throughout their studies.



A huge thank you to everyone who helped make the event such a special occasion. We are incredibly proud of our Year 13 students and wish them every success in their final examinations. We look forward to welcoming them back for one final celebration at the Summer Ball on Friday 3rd July.



RIVERS SIXTH FORM

Student Shout Out

Year 12 – Bobbi - A huge congratulations to Bobbi for embracing her new leadership role with enthusiasm and confidence. Since stepping into the position, she has quickly taken initiative, implementing new ideas, supporting her peers, and demonstrating excellent leadership qualities. Her positive attitude, commitment and willingness to lead by example have already made a noticeable impact. We are incredibly impressed with how quickly she has adapted to the role and look forward to seeing all that she achieves this year. Well done, Bobbi!

Sixth Form in the Community

Tomorrow marks the 82nd Anniversary of D-Day, and our Sixth Form students have taken time to reflect on the courage, sacrifice and resilience shown by those who took part in this pivotal moment in history. It is important that we continue to remember and honour those who served, ensuring their stories and legacy live on for future generations.

Today, we also limboed our way into the weekend wearing green to celebrate World Environment Day. This year's theme focuses on climate action, encouraging everyone, everywhere to step in

#NowForClimate and help create a more sustainable future. It was fantastic to see so many students getting involved and showing their support for this important global campaign.

Throughout June, we will also be celebrating Pride Month within the Sixth Form. Keep an eye out for our upcoming Pride-Themed Bake-Off, where students will be showcasing their creativity, raising awareness and celebrating the values of inclusivity, diversity and belonging that are so important within our Sixth Form community.

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
- Summer Ball 3rd July 2026 - Final payments this week!

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

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



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[greateressexmusicHub.org.uk/site/
summer-music-programme-2026](https://greateressexmusicHub.org.uk/site/summer-music-programme-2026)





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'.