



Message from the Principal

Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to thank you for your support and understanding during last week's period of exceptionally hot weather. Working together helped us to ensure that students remained safe, comfortable and focused on their learning despite the challenging conditions. We greatly appreciated the mature way in which the vast majority of our students responded to the temporary adjustment of wearing PE kit during the school day. Almost all students wore their PE kit correctly and, when we returned to normal arrangements, students quickly resumed wearing school uniform. Thank you for working with us to maintain our high standards.

We also received feedback from several students regarding the possibility of closing the school during the hottest day last week and these students expressed their views respectfully, thoughtfully and with maturity. We value student voice and appreciate the constructive way in which they shared their opinions with us.

As we move towards the end of term, it appears that further hot weather may be on the way. We will continue to monitor the forecasts closely and will keep our uniform expectations under review, updating parents as necessary should any temporary adjustments be required. In the meantime, please remind your child to bring a refillable water bottle to school each day so that they can stay hydrated. As previously communicated, blazers and ties will remain optional until the end of term. Please be reminded that there are spaces within the school building that are fully airconditioned and are used to a full capacity in hot weather to help us manage the heat.

Please can you remind your child that they should bring their catering cards to school each day. Students arriving without their cards can slow canteen and food outlet queues, delaying service for both themselves and other students at break and lunchtime. If a replacement card is required, these can be purchased for £1 via ParentPay.

Finally, please remember to purchase your tickets for our spectacular Song & Dance production, Avatar, taking place on Tuesday 14, Wednesday 15 and Thursday 16 July 2026. Our talented students, supported by our dedicated Performing Arts team, have been working hard over the past few months to create what promises to be a truly fantastic end-of-year performance. We would love to see as many family members and friends as possible in the audience to celebrate and support their hard work, commitment and talent. Tickets cost £5 and can be purchased from Main Reception.

Thank you once again for your continued support as we approach the end of the academic year.

Warm regards,

Dijana Piralic
Principal (Interim)



Dates for your Diary

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

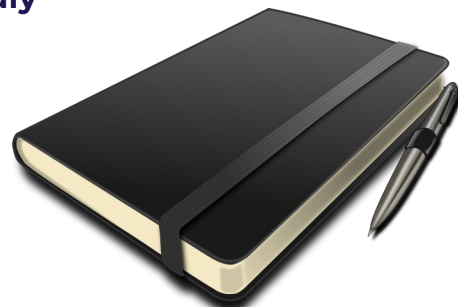
Academy Sports Day

Tuesday 21st July 2026

Year Group Trips

Wednesday 22nd July 2026

Academy closes at 1.50pm for Summer Holiday



Teaching Behaviours

Make Every Day Count: Three Weeks to Go!

As we enter the final three weeks of the school year, we want to make the most of every opportunity for learning, achievement and positive memories. While the summer break is now in sight, these last few weeks remain incredibly important. Lessons continue right up to the end of term, students are preparing for their next year group, and there are lots of exciting events and rewards still to come.

Why Attendance Matters

Good attendance is one of the biggest factors in student success. Every lesson counts, and even a small number of missed days can have a significant impact on learning, confidence and progress. Regular attendance helps students:

- Stay on track with their learning.
- Build positive relationships with teachers and peers.
- Maintain routines and resilience.
- Feel more confident in lessons.
- Take part in enrichment opportunities, trips and special events.

The final weeks of term are particularly important as teachers review key learning, celebrate achievements and prepare students for a successful start next year.

How Parents Can Support Good Attendance

Parents play a vital role in encouraging excellent attendance. Here are some simple ways to help:



- ☑ Maintain regular morning and evening routines.
- ☑ Ensure your child arrives on time each day.
- ☑ Encourage a positive attitude towards school attendance.
- ☑ Avoid booking appointments or holidays during term time wherever possible.
- ☑ Speak to us if your child is experiencing difficulties—we are here to help and support.

By working together, we can ensure every student finishes the year strongly and positively.

Exciting Attendance Rewards!

To encourage excellent attendance during these final weeks, we have some fantastic rewards on offer.

Weekly Attendance Prize Draw

Our headline prize is an 8-speed front-suspension mountain bike!

For every week a student achieves 100% attendance, they will receive one ticket into the prize draw. 100% attendance for 1 week = 1 ticket into the draw! The more weeks students attend every day, the more chances they have of winning this fantastic prize.

Club Zero

Students who achieve:

- 0 days absent, and/or
- 0 negative behaviour points

will earn membership to Club Zero and be rewarded with a non-uniform day on the last day of term. We hold our end of year achievement assembly and show on the last day of the year! This is a brilliant way to recognise students who consistently demonstrate our expectations for attendance and behaviour.

End-of-Year Theme Park Trip

Students who meet the required attendance, behaviour and effort expectations will have the opportunity to attend our exciting end-of-year theme park trip. This is always one of the highlights of the school calendar and a fantastic way to celebrate a successful year.

Sports Day 2026

In the final week of term, we will be holding our whole-school Sports Day. There will be a wide range of activities and events for students of all abilities to enjoy and compete in as they earn valuable points for their Houses. Who will be crowned this year's champions and lift the House Trophy? We can't wait to find out!

Let's Finish Strong

These final three weeks are packed with opportunities for students to learn, achieve and celebrate. Excellent attendance will ensure that every student can take full advantage of everything on offer. Together, let's make every day count and finish the school year on a high! 🌟🚴🏆🏠🏅



Announcement

Please be aware that Maldon District Council has alerted the public to adder sightings at Orchard Meadows in Southminster and is putting up information signs across the site. We are aware that many of our students visit the playground area at Orchard Meadows so please advise your children to stay alert, stick to marked paths where possible and give any snake they see plenty of space, moving away calmly rather than trying to interfere.



www.maldonandburnhamstandard.co.uk - venomous snakes-spotted - Southminster

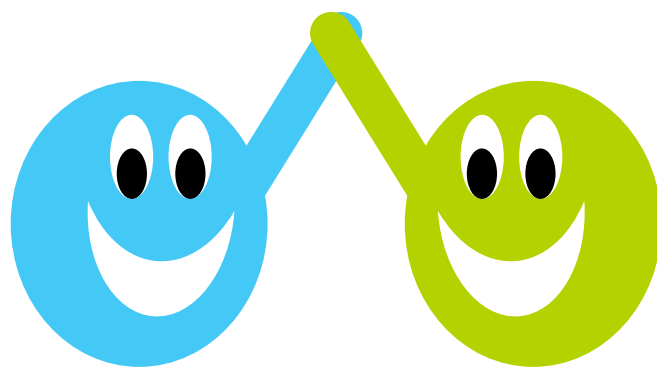
Attendance Matters

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 9
9D1



Year 8
8M2
Year 10
10Z2

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 **“Supervise”**.

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

Say it: soo·puh·vize

Spell it: Su-per-vise

Supervise
(verb)

(Prefix) – **Super** – above - over
(Suffix) – **vise** – see

Stem: supervise:- over / see / inspect

Understand it
To oversee and have charge of and superintend the work or performance of others.

Food Technology Department Stars of the Week

This week our Year 10 Hospitality and Catering students completed their mock exam practical. Lots of preparation and hard work was involved and the end result was some fabulous cooking and mouth watering meals.

Well done everybody!





DISTRCT SPORTS 2026

We are incredibly proud of the 80 students who represented the academy at this year's Mid Essex Athletics District Event on 16th June 2026. It was a fantastic day of competition, with our student's demonstrating determination, resilience, and a commitment to giving their very best in every event.

Beyond their impressive performances, our students were exceptional ambassadors for the academy. They displayed outstanding sportsmanship, supported and encouraged one another throughout the day, and represented the school with pride, respect, and enthusiasm.

Their positive attitude and dedication were evident from start to finish, and they should all be extremely proud of their achievements. A huge well done to every student who took part and thank you to the staff who supported the team. We look forward to seeing many of our athletes continue their success in future competitions.

Thank you to our Year 12 Sports Leaders who helped run an event and supported during the day!

Top 8 Finishers for Year 7 boys

Beau B, Zac R, Oliver L

Top 8 Finishers for Year 7 girls

Jessica E, Amelia T, Daisy P, Adeline M

Top 8 Finishers for Year 8 boys

Isaac A, Ollie M, Vincent B

Top 8 Finishers for Year 8 girls

Monet G, Rosie C, Sienna S, Evie P

Top 8 Finishers for Year 9 boys

Lewis S, Maxwell D, Ewan G

Top 8 Finishers for Year 9 girls

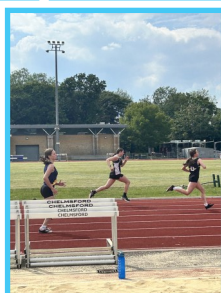
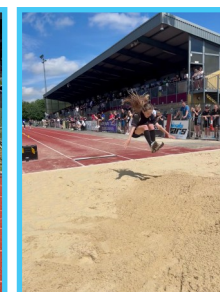
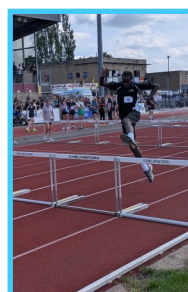
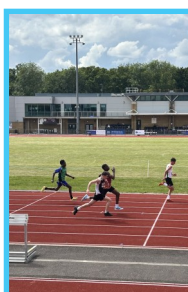
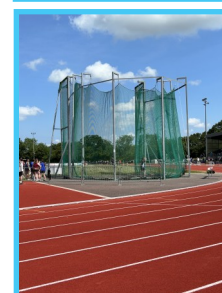
Phoebe F, Megan C, Jenna S, Abby S, Emilie C

Top 8 Finishers for Year 10/11 boys

Max C, Mason L, Bobby F, Tommy D, Tom J

Top 8 Finishers for Year 10/11 girls

Lorna L, Florence F, Maddison P, Skye K, Adele R



Greenwich Maths Time Inspires Our Future Mathematicians



**UNIVERSITY OF
GREENWICH**

Nineteen of our highest-attaining Year 10 mathematicians recently enjoyed an exciting day at the Greenwich Maths Time event, joining students from schools across London for a celebration of mathematics, problem-solving and future careers.

Throughout the day, students took part in a range of interactive workshops, including Financial Fortune Telling, where they used algebra to explore future wealth; Fastest Isn't Always the Shortest, which examined the mathematics of time and optimisation; and The Maths of Mind Games: Can You Make the Best Move Using Game Theory?, where students explored the fascinating world of strategic decision-making and discovered how mathematics can be used to predict and analyse the best possible choices.

The event was designed to stretch and challenge our most able mathematicians while giving them a glimpse into the many exciting careers that mathematics can lead to. As they prepare to enter Year 11, the experience provided a real boost to their confidence, curiosity and enthusiasm ahead of their GCSE studies.

The feedback from our students was overwhelmingly positive. Ryan G (10Z2) commented, "I thoroughly enjoyed the event. It was one of the best school trips I've been on in four years." Mason L (10D2) agreed, saying, "The workshops were brilliant, and it was definitely one of the best events we've been to."

To round off a fantastic day, students enjoyed an ice cream together by the iconic Cutty Sark before heading home.

We were also delighted to receive several emails from parents expressing how much their children had enjoyed the experience and thanking the school for providing such an inspiring opportunity.

Experiences such as Greenwich Maths Time are an important part of our wider curriculum, helping students develop a strong sense of belonging by learning alongside like-minded peers from other schools, broadening their aspirations, and fostering confidence, collaboration and inclusion. These enrichment opportunities align closely with Ofsted's focus on personal development, ensuring that all pupils have access to meaningful experiences that extend learning beyond the classroom.

The Mathematics Department looks forward to providing many more enrichment opportunities over the coming year, including plans for an exciting international mathematics trip to Florence in Italy and CERN in Switzerland.





Performing Arts News



Celebrating Our Music Makers at the Burnham Art Trail

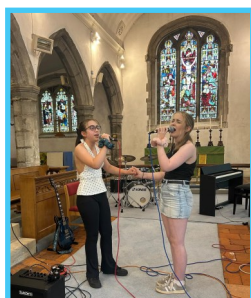
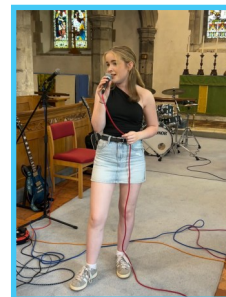
A huge well done to all of our students who performed so brilliantly as part of the Burnham Art Trail. Taking to the stage at St Mary's Church on Tuesday 23rd June. They delighted a large and enthusiastic audience with a wonderful programme of both singing and instrumental performances.

The evening was made even more special by the involvement of local primary schools, with pupils from St Mary's and Burnham Primary also sharing their talents. It was inspiring to see so many young musicians coming together and performing with such confidence and professionalism.

The event was a tremendous success, with tickets completely sold out—a testament to the hard work and dedication shown by all those involved.

We are incredibly proud of everyone who took part and represented the school so positively. Well done!

Danica -10M1, Emme - 10D2, Logan- 10D2, Harry - 10M1, Freddie -9Z1, Alissa - 11D1, Esther- 7Z2, Thomas - 7A2, Rose - 10M1, Paige - 9A1, Charlie - 9A2, Rebecca -7D2, Haidyn 10M1.





CAREERS
WORK
JOB
**Careers
Spotlight**

Career of the Week



**HELPLINE
ADVISOR**



Online Webinar for Year 10,11 12 and 13

[Level Up Your Summer: Steps To Smash Your Final Year & Beyond](#) - 7th July @ 5:00pm

Join Lloyds Banking Group for an interactive session designed to help you feel confident, prepared and future-ready as you head into your final year and beyond. Whether you're thinking about university, apprenticeships, work, or still figuring it all out, this session will give you practical steps you can start using right now.

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

Log your placement on Unifrog - All students have received an email from Unifrog so they can log in their placement there. Any problems, email Fliss Compton on fcompton@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk.

Our Next Apprenticeship Hub Live Session:

Getting Ahead: Preparing for Next Academic Year - 8th July 6:15pm - 7pm

Want to feel more confident about the year ahead and start planning your future early?

Join us for Getting Ahead: Preparing for Next Academic Year, a free online event delivered in partnership with Essex Apprenticeship Hub and Pathway CTM. This session is designed to help students feel informed, prepared and motivated as they look ahead to the next academic year and begin thinking seriously about their future options.

Register now: <https://pathwayctm.com/event/getting-ahead-preparing-for-next-academic-year/>

ESSEX YEAR OF OPPORTUNITY

Assessment Centre Experience Day

We're delighted to invite you to apply for our Assessment Centre Experience Day at Anglia Ruskin University, designed to give you a realistic insight into what applying for a position is really like.

ARU, Bishop Hall Lane, Chelmsford, CM1 1SQ
Thursday 23rd July 2026, 10am to 2pm

How to get involved
Click on the link below or scan the QR code to register your interest.
[Register your interest](#)

Closing Date for Application 3rd July -12pm

What to expect

- Networking
- Activities used in real recruitment processes
- How to prepare and present yourself in an assessment centre scenario
- Certificate presentation
- Lunch





Year 7 - Mr Adair

As we approach the end of another successful year, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all parents and carers for your continued support, encouragement, and partnership. The transition to secondary school can be a significant step for both students and families, and your unwavering support has played a vital role in helping our Year 7 students settle in, grow in confidence, and make excellent progress throughout the year. We are incredibly grateful for everything you have done to support our school community.

This week has been another fantastic example of the enthusiasm and achievement we see across the year group. A huge congratulations goes to our Year 7 cricket team, who secured a hard-fought victory this week. Their determination, teamwork, and resilience were clear to see, and they represented the school superbly. We are extremely proud of their efforts and success.

Across the curriculum, students continue to impress us with their engagement and creativity. In English, I have had the pleasure of witnessing some truly outstanding work as students developed their creative writing skills through a fascinating historical writing project. To bring their work to life, students carefully aged their documents using teabags, creating authentic-looking historical texts. The level of imagination, effort, and attention to detail on display was exceptional and demonstrated just how enthusiastically our students are embracing their learning.

I have also been lucky enough to observe some wonderfully engaging—and suitably spooky—lessons linked to the Salem Witch Hunts. Students explored the history behind this infamous period, examining the events and factors that contributed to the witch trials. The curiosity, discussion, and thoughtful questioning shown by our Year 7 students highlighted their growing confidence as learners and their willingness to engage with challenging and thought-provoking topics.

As we reflect on the year so far, it is impossible not to feel proud of all that our Year 7 students have achieved. They have embraced new challenges, developed new friendships, and continued to demonstrate the positive attitudes and determination that make our year group such a pleasure to work with. Thank you once again for your continued support throughout the year, and we look forward to celebrating many more successes together in the months ahead.

Contact: cadair@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk



Year 8 - Mr Moon

This week, Year 8 students attended an assembly focused on STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics), highlighting the exciting opportunities and careers available within these fields. Students were encouraged to think about how the skills they develop in school today can help shape their futures and the important role that innovation and problem-solving play in our everyday lives.

In History, students have continued their learning about the Titanic, exploring the events surrounding the famous voyage and examining the reasons behind the disaster. It has been fantastic to see students engaging with this topic and developing their understanding of this significant historical event.

Our practical subjects have also been keeping Year 8 busy. In Design Technology, students have been working hard to create their own lights, developing their design and manufacturing skills throughout the project. Meanwhile, in Textiles, students have been showing great creativity as they make breakfast plates from fabric, demonstrating excellent attention to detail and sewing techniques.

On the sporting front, Year 8 played their final cricket match of the season against Plume on Tuesday. While the result did not go our way, the team represented the school brilliantly and showed excellent determination throughout the game. A special mention goes to Dexter, who produced an outstanding bowling performance by taking four wickets in just two overs, and to Ronnie, who bowled with great control and conceded the fewest runs for the team. Well done to everyone involved for their effort and commitment throughout the season.

Congratulations also to our top merit earners this week:

Marcus (8A2), Lilly (8A2) and Mason (8M1).

Thank you for consistently demonstrating our school values and setting a fantastic example to your peers. Keep up the excellent work!

As we move towards the end of the academic year, I would like to thank all Year 8 students for their continued hard work, positive attitude and commitment to their learning. Let's finish the term strongly and continue making the most of every opportunity.

Contact: smoon@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk



Year 9 – Mr Chapman

A huge well done to our top merit earners of the week:

Jude (9D1), Amelia (9A2) and Daisy (9Z1)

Congratulations to all three on their fantastic achievement.

The overall top three merit earners for Year 9 this academic year remain Ava, James and Mia. Maintaining that position over the course of the year is a fantastic accomplishment, and they should be very proud of their efforts.



Last Wednesday, a number of our Year 9 students took part in the Spanish event. I have heard very positive feedback about the day and understand it was a great success. Opportunities such as these are a fantastic way for students to develop their language skills and cultural understanding, and I hope everyone who attended enjoyed the experience.

In Music, students have been exploring Gamelan drumming. I had the opportunity to visit a lesson with Mr Adair and see students preparing their performances. It was impressive to see their focus and enthusiasm as they worked together to develop their musical pieces.

In PE, both boys and girls have been enjoying rounders, making the most of the recent spell of good weather. It has been great to see so many students taking part, developing their skills and enjoying being active outdoors.

Well done to all Year 9 students for another positive week. As we approach the end of the academic year, it is pleasing to see students continuing to engage fully in the wide range of opportunities available to them.

Contact: rchapman@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk



Year 10 - Mr Field

Last week, a number of our students played an important role in supporting the annual Dengie Sports event, where local primary schools compete using our athletics facilities. Our students demonstrated excellent leadership and responsibility throughout the day, undertaking roles such as timekeeping races, officiating track and field events, and helping to ensure the smooth running of the competition. Thank you to all those who volunteered their time and represented the school so positively.

This week, I also had the pleasure of seeing students taking part in the mock cooking element of their catering examinations. It was fantastic to see so many students working diligently, preparing a wide variety of dishes and taking great pride in their work. Their enthusiasm, organisation, and attention to detail were evident throughout.

The standard of cooking was outstanding, with students producing an impressive range of dishes, including Quesadillas, Burgers, Sweet Potato Gnocchi, and Spaghetti Bolognese. The quality and presentation of the food were truly first class.

Please enjoy the accompanying photographs showcasing our students' hard work, creativity, and dedication in the kitchen. We are incredibly proud of their efforts and achievements.

Contact: sfield@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk



RIVERS SIXTH FORM

Year 12 & 13 - Mrs Wilkins

Following on from a lovely hot (and very sticky!) last week in the Sixth Form, it's been fantastic to see so much happening across our community.

Our Year 12 students have spent the week on their Work Experience placements, and it has been wonderful catching up with many of them and seeing the photos and videos they've been sharing. From local businesses to national organisations, our students have embraced every opportunity, developing valuable skills and gaining first-hand experience of the workplace. We look forward to hearing more about their experiences when they return next week.

Before heading off on work experience, our Year 12 students also successfully completed their mock examinations. Well done to everyone for the hard work, commitment and resilience shown throughout the exam period. Teachers will provide individual feedback in lessons once students return from their placements, helping them to celebrate their successes and identify the next steps as they continue their journey towards Year 13.

This week we also welcomed our prospective Year 12 students for our Rivers Ready Taster Day. It was a fantastic opportunity for students to experience life at Rivers Sixth Form, meet staff, take part in engaging activities and begin making new friendships ahead of September. We were incredibly proud of the enthusiasm, positivity and maturity shown throughout the day.



This evening we are looking forward to celebrating with our amazing Year 13 students at the Summer Ball. It promises to be a wonderful evening and a chance to reflect on everything they have achieved during their time at Rivers Sixth Form. We can't wait to celebrate with you all!

Finally, a reminder that the Thorpe Park trip deadline has now passed. Thank you to everyone who submitted their forms and payments. We look forward to an exciting trip later this term with those who have secured their place.



RIVERS SIXTH FORM

Student Shout Out

Year 12 – Summer - She has shown exceptional professionalism this week through her outstanding support during our Year 11 Rivers Ready Taster Day. She welcomed prospective students with confidence, enthusiasm and maturity, acting as a fantastic ambassador for Rivers Sixth Form and helping to ensure the day ran smoothly. Since joining us in September, Summer has grown enormously in confidence and has truly developed into an inspiring young person. Her commitment, willingness to help others and positive attitude have been wonderful to see, and she should be incredibly proud of how far she has come. Congratulations, Summer, a very well-deserved recognition!

What's Coming Up

- Thorpe Park Trip
- Sports Day
- 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.

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.



RIVERS SIXTH FORM

- **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



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.



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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'.