



26 May 2022

Dear Parents / Carers

Summer Term (2) Updates, attendance, punctuality, school day, uniform and key dates.

I hope you are well and looking forward to the next short break. Our examination groups are now well into their exams, and we have been extremely proud of their attitudes and conduct in exams as well as how well they have taken up the opportunity for the mini 'boost' sessions we have offered just before an exam begins. We continue to keep our fingers crossed that they all achieve the outcomes we all desire and that their hard work pays off. Please ensure that your children also combine their study with relaxation techniques and get plenty of fresh air, especially during the coming half term.

This will be my first year since starting at Rooks Heath that I will be able to lead a fully functioning school through to the end of the year without the effects of the pandemic and interruption. I am delighted to be able to update you on school business until the end of the academic year. The summer term brings plenty of opportunities including increasing extra-curricular activities and a number of academic activities in support of our students' development. We also look forward to welcoming our incoming Year 6 students and parents into the Rooks Heath community.

Attendance and punctuality

Our drive on attendance and punctuality is going very well and I would like to congratulate those families who have worked really well with us to ensure their children are at school every day and on time. I extend a special well done to those students who have made great progress in increasing their attendance and improving their punctuality and we continue to recognise them in school. For the remaining few students who are not meeting our expectations, you will remember that we have introduced fines for non-attendance or an accumulation of lateness which is equal to sessions of school missed. I hope that we will not need to resort to issuing these, however it is important that everyone understands that the number one aim is that no child misses school, learning and being part of the school community. Please refer to our [Attendance and Punctuality Drive letter](#) sent on the 22nd November 2021.

Behaviour s- rewards and sanctions systems

After the half term, we will reintroduce centralised detentions which were partly removed as part of our pandemic measures. Students have had assemblies delivered by me which introduced them to the 3 Be's: Be Ready, Be Respectful and Be on Time. We have also introduced students to our new C.O.D.E of conduct consequence system which will be trialled after half term. The C.O.D.E will capture any misbehaviour which falls under 'conduct', 'organisation', 'disrespect' and 'engagement'. We continue to reward students using our On-TRACK system of positive points.



Small changes to the school day structure

We have listened to some of the views of our PTFA and I am sure parents will be pleased to know that we have adjusted our school day. After half term, there will be one 20-minute break from 11:10am and a 40-minute lunch from 12:30pm. All students will be at break and lunch at the same time. We will continue to expect the same high standards of behaviour and attitudes from all students and have put in place measures to ensure every student has an opportunity to sit and eat a hot meal if they choose to. The start and end times of school for KS3 and KS4 remain unchanged: Years 7, 8 and 9 finish at 3:05pm (2:10pm on Wednesday) and Year 10 at 3:15pm (2:00pm on Wednesday).

Uniform donations

As always, we would like to support our Rooks Heath families to recycle uniform where possible and to exchange blazers for larger sizes where required. We have a few pre-owned blazers and other items of uniform in good condition. If your child's blazer has become too small and is still in a good condition, we would be very pleased to arrange an exchange. We are also happy to accept other uniform donations. Please ensure items are cleaned before donating. If you have uniform to donate, please deliver it to the school reception.

Uniform provision

We understand that there may be some families experiencing financial hardship. We would also be happy to support by providing a blazer (blue or black) or other items of school clothing where we have stock. We cannot accept any money for any items we give you, however if you would like to give something in return, we would encourage you to support any of the fundraising initiatives we promote. If you are interested in sourcing second-hand uniform from the school, please email the school or ask at Reception and someone will contact you to make the necessary arrangements. Please remember to speak to your children about uniform and remind them that they **must not** wear outdoor coats or jackets in the classroom and blazers must **always** be worn including on the way to and from school. As we transition completely out of the pandemic, we are now also asking that students no longer wear face masks in school. Wearing a face mask can impede communication and any students who experience symptoms of Covid or feel unwell should follow the normal procedures for sickness absence.

Key Dates:

Please find below a summary of some key dates until the end of term. I look forward to seeing you at the 'Strive to be your best' evenings or at other parent-contact events in the future.

Monday 6 th June	All students return to school as normal. Year 7 'Strive to be your best' evening 5pm Year 8 'Strive to be your best' evening 6:30pm
Tuesday 7 th June	Year 9 'Strive to be your best' evening 5pm.
Monday 20 th – Friday 24 th June	End of year exams for Years 7, 8 and 9



Friday 24th June – Monday 1st July

Tuesday 28th June

Wednesday 29th June

Thursday 7th July

Wednesday 13th July

Thursday 21st July

Year 10 Mock exams

PTFA (*Please email Ms Grover if you would like to participate*).

year 13 Prom

New Intake Parents Evening (for parents of Year 6 students)

Summer concert / Cultural evening

Last day of term

Yours sincerely

Mrs Miriam Manderson

Headteacher