



Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2024

Dear Parents / Carers

### **Summer Term (2) Expectations and key dates.**

I hope you and your families are well. Firstly, I want to commend your children in Years 11 and 13 who have shown excellent attitudes and commitment to their exams. We have just reached the half term mark and students have already sat several of their examinations with many reporting they have completed them with confidence. We hope 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.

Next term will mark 50 years of Rooks Heath School since it opened as a secondary modern school in 1974. We will host a celebration during July, and we hope you will celebrate with us.

At this time of the year, I want to take the opportunity to set a reminder of our expectations under our 'Be Ready, Be Respectful' and 'Be on Time' mantra.

**Be Ready** – Attendance, Equipment, Uniform, Homework and Independent Study

**Be Respectful** – Behaviour for learning, in corridors, outside of school and mobile phones.

**Be on time** – Travel to and from school.

### **Attendance and punctuality**

A very thank you and congratulations to those families who have worked with us to ensure their children are at school every day and on time. At the time of the Ofsted inspection, we were also congratulated for being in the top 25% of schools for our attendance by an organisation called Fischer Family Trust. The research shows there to be a very clear correlation between examination results and attendance at school. Quite simply, the better your child's attendance the better their examination results are likely to be. Please refer to this [Attendance and Punctuality Drive letter](#) . Please also note that requests for leave during term time will not be approved.

### **School Uniform**

Please remember to ensure your children are in full school uniform and remind them that they must wear the full school uniform on the way to school and from school every school day. **Blazers must always be worn** (in temperatures below 25° Celsius) together **with polishable plain black shoes**. A few students are letting us down and we will always address this. Wearing school uniform is an act of pride and also avoids bullying of students, something all parents, carers and school staff are strongly against.





### Uniform donations and provision

We are always happy to accept uniform donations from all year groups including at the end of the exams from Year 11 students. Please ensure items are cleaned before donating. If you have uniform to donate, please deliver it to the school reception. We would also be happy to support our families by providing a blazer (blue or black) or other items of school clothing where we have stock. 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. 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 our [fundraising for new toilets](#) we are promoting.

### Behaviour, rewards and sanctions systems

Rooks Heath has a safe and harmonious learning community, and we insist on good behaviour because we want to see this remain. After the half term, we will remind all students once again of the Behaviour for Learning policy including our on-TRACK system of rewards, the C.O.D.E of conduct points for sanctions and the 3 B's: **Be Ready, Be Respectful and Be on Time**. Any misbehaviour outside of school constitute 'bringing the school into disrepute'. This carries a high sanction. Students must always act in a dignified and mature manner when outside of the school.

**We also want our families to be clear that bullying is never tolerated and is always treated seriously.**

As always, these reminders will be for the few. The majority of students in our school community work together for the sake of our children. We look forward to your support in ensuring all students are treated fairly and consistently and trust the guidance above makes things clear for everyone.

### Mobile phones

The government supports schools with implementing strict mobile phone policies. Mobile phones risk unnecessary distraction, disruption and diversion. Misuse of mobile phones in the school day disrupts the school community and diverts teachers' efforts away from your child's learning. At Rooks Heath school, mobile phones must not be seen or heard when students are on site. Mobile phones will be confiscated if seen, locked away in our Student Support Hub and returned **only** to parents / carers **after 24 hours**. If you need to contact your child urgently, please phone the school Reception and the message will be passed on to your child. Please note that any mobile phone or digital device brought into school remains the responsibility of the student. We will not enter into conversations about mobile devices and appreciate your support.

### Homework and Independent study

Homework is an essential part of school life and must be completed. Students are expected to complete all homework set and engage in independent study. It ensures students develop and make good progress. Please ensure your child has a quiet place to study and do show an interest in the work they have been set by asking your child to describe or explain the purpose of the homework that has been set.

Please find below a summary of key dates between now and August 2024. I hope these dates will assist with any planning and look forward to seeing you at our future parent-contact events in school.





**Key Dates:**

Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> May - Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> June	Half term. School closed.
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> June	Staff PD Day. School closed to students.
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> June - Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> June	End of year exams for Years 7, 8 and 9.
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> June – Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> July	End of year exams for Year 10.
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> – Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> July	End of year exams for Year 12.
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> July	PTFA. <i>(Please email Ms Grover if you would like to participate).</i>
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 11 Prom.
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> July	Early finish for students 1:35pm.
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> July	Staff PD Day. School closed to students.
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> July	End of term. Early finish for student 12:30pm.
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> August	A level results day.
Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> August	GCSE results day.

The school will be closed to students. Our final day of the summer term will be Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> July 2024 for everyone.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Miriam Manderson  
**Headteacher**

