



23 October 2020

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Dear Parents / Carers,

Firstly, I would like to thank you for your support and playing a key role in ensuring that your children have come back to school with a positive mindset ready to learn. There have been adjustments made across the school to ensure we are keeping the environment a safe one for all and it has been amazing to see the community pull together.

As you are aware the standards and expectations we hold ourselves to at Ridgeway are incredibly important. These standards start with the students arriving for school well presented with the correct uniform and fully equipped for the day.

When we return to school on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November we will be conducting uniform checks for all students to ensure their uniform is in line with school policy.

A list of uniform can be found below:

### Girls Uniform

- Black shoes (Non-sports brands)
- Plain black ankle socks (NO frills/lace, trainer or knee high socks)
- 40 or 70 Denier Black tights
- Stitchpleat knee length black skirt with Ridgeway 'R' logo or Straight Leg Black trousers (NO jeggings/leggings)
- Plain black tailored fit trousers (No skinny / slim fit trousers)
- White blouse (long or short sleeved)
- Ridgeway Academy V-Neck Black pullover with badge (optional)
- Ridgeway Academy Girls Blazer Black
- Ridgeway Academy Red Tie
- Base layers for extra warmth (Plain black / to be worn under uniform)

### Boys Uniform:

- Black shoes (Non-sports brands)
- Plain black ankle socks
- Black belted trousers
- White shirt (long or short sleeved)
- Ridgeway Academy V-Neck Black pullover with badge (optional)
- Ridgeway Academy Boys Blazer Black
- Ridgeway Academy Red Tie
- Base layers for extra warmth (Plain black / to be worn under uniform)

### PE Kit:

- Ridgeway Academy Unisex Polo Shirt Red/Black
- Ridgeway Academy Fitted Polo Shirt Red/Black (Girls)
- Ridgeway Academy PE Shorts Black
- Ridgeway Academy Track Pants Black / Plain black tracksuit bottoms (Optional)
- Ridgeway Academy Sports socks
- Ridgeway Academy Midlayer Black/Red (Optional)
- Ridgeway Academy Skort Black (Girls)

- Base layers Black only
- Ridgeway Academy Leggings Black (Optional)
- Non-marking Trainers – NO PLIMSOLLS
- Football boots
- Shin pads

I would like to take this opportunity to ask parents / carers to take note of the items of clothing below that students are **not allowed** to wear:

- Hoodies
- Tracksuit tops
- Trainers (Including plain back leather trainers e.g. Nike Air Force 1's)
- Base layers which are not black

If a student arrives at school with any of these items of clothing they will be asked to correct them prior to attending their period 1 lesson. Hoodies / tracksuit tops will be confiscated until the end of the day. Shoes will be provided from student services in exchange for the trainers being worn and base layers will be requested to be removed.

If a student does not cooperate with this process they will be unable to attend lessons for the day and will complete their learning in the Reflective Learning Centre in line with school policy.

We are conscious that the weather is changing and over the next few months this will continue to deteriorate further. It is important that children have an appropriate outdoor coat to wear to and from school during this time.

Finally, a reminder that the school is unable to provide equipment to students in the current climate. Please can parents / carers ensure that you child comes to school with a full set of equipment including specialist equipment needed for lessons.

If you have any questions regarding uniform, please contact the Director of Learning for your child's year group or visit the school website for further details.

Year 7 - Mrs M Tinker ([merideth.tinker@ridgeway.herts.sch.uk](mailto:merideth.tinker@ridgeway.herts.sch.uk))

Year 8 - Mr K Koupis ([kostas.koupis@ridgeway.herts.sch.uk](mailto:kostas.koupis@ridgeway.herts.sch.uk))

Year 9 - Mr W Sarjeant ([william.sarjeant@ridgeway.herts.sch.uk](mailto:william.sarjeant@ridgeway.herts.sch.uk))

Year 10 / 11 – Mr G Merrigan ([glenn.merrigan@ridgeway.herts.sch.uk](mailto:glenn.merrigan@ridgeway.herts.sch.uk))

Year 12 / 13 – Mrs S Merrigan ([sarah.merrigan@ridgeway.herts.sch.uk](mailto:sarah.merrigan@ridgeway.herts.sch.uk))

### **Covid 19 – October Half Term**

If your child tests positive for coronavirus at any point during half-term, please notify us by completing the form on our website <https://ridgeway.herts.sch.uk/covid-19-form/> as soon as possible so we can complete the relevant tracking and tracing process with public health and notify any other children or staff who have been close contacts and need to self-isolate maintaining the confidentiality of your child. Please do not call the normal absence line as this will not be covered during half-term.

**Remember as soon as your child or any member of your household develops symptoms, they must start self-isolating immediately and book a test.**

### **Main symptoms of covid-19 are:**

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot, for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours
- a loss or change to sense of smell or taste – this means they cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

If you are not sure whether symptoms suggest that they have covid-19 or an everyday cough or cold, you can consult the online NHS symptom checker: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/>

**Please do not send children back to school if any of the following apply:**

- they have symptoms of COVID-19
- they, any members of your household, or any close contacts (including extended family or friends they have seen and bubbles at half-term activities and sports clubs) have tested positive for COVID-19
- they have not completed the full 14 day isolation period requested

If you or your family are affected by COVID-19 and need support locally with things like shopping, getting medication or financial advice, visit: [www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/coronavirus](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/coronavirus)

**Local COVID-19 alert levels and restrictions**

As you know Hertfordshire is currently at 'MEDIUM' Tier 1 in the [local COVID alert level framework](#). Many of you will have staff and children travelling into areas that are at a 'HIGH' alert level and in Tier 2. The main difference in high alert Tier 2 areas is the compulsory use of face covering for children in years 7 and above and staff (unless exempt) when moving around the schools shared areas.

We are continuing to monitor the situation closely and will update you of any changes to Hertfordshire's alert level if needed, please be mindful of this during half-term.

Have a restful half term and we look forward to welcoming all students back on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November.

Yours sincerely



Mrs S Mitcherson  
**Headteacher**