



31 March 2023

t: 01707 351350

f: 01707 351357

admin@ridgeway.herts.sch.uk

www.ridgeway.herts.sch.uk

Dear Parent/ Carer,

Thank you for your continued support this term as we work to continue to raise standards. I am writing to you to inform you that after Easter I will be leading work on continuing to further raise standards.

Families of older students may remember that in the academic years before Covid lockdowns, our reward and sanction policy included a clear focus on standards of uniform and book work quality and quantity. After the Easter holidays, these will be reinstated for all year groups.

Uniform and bookwork standards

Students who attend school in the correct uniform will be rewarded each morning with an R1. Those students in incorrect uniform will be issued with an S1 (standards detention), this is a 30-minute lunch time detention. During lesson time, poor book quality (for example, ripping or scribbling on pages) will be issued with an S1.

Good quality book work and effort will continue to be rewarded with R1, R2 and R3 rewards.

Expected uniform standards

- Skirts must be knee length
- Shirts must be tucked in
- Ties must be worn with the logo under the knot
- Top buttons of shirts must be done up
- A blazer must be worn
- School shoes must be worn
- One pair of stud earrings can be worn- there must be no other facial piercings. A clear nose stud may be worn in place of a nose stud.
- Students must not wear acrylic nails or brightly coloured nail polish
- Hair colour must be natural- no extreme colours.

School shoes will not be available from H block for students who arrive in trainers. There is the possibility for financial support for families in receipt of free school meals, please use our financial support request link available on our school website.<https://ridgeway.herts.sch.uk/pupil-premium/>

Mobile phone use

We are currently reviewing our mobile phone policy and will be making changes to this for September. We recognise that many students need to bring a mobile device to school for use before and after the school day, but use of mobile phones during the day is unacceptable and is very problematic throughout the school day. Mobile phones must be switched off and kept in bags throughout the day. If a mobile phone is seen or used it will be confiscated by a member of staff. Students can collect their phones at the end of the school day from Reception, where they will be locked away until collected. We ask parents to remind students that urgent calls can be made from reception or H block and that students must not use their phones throughout the day.

Form rooms and tutor time

This year, we have been trailing form rooms of year groups all being in one area of the school, for example all year 8 form rooms are currently in L block. This means teachers leave their teaching rooms to meet their form in a different area of school. After Easter we will return to form rooms being the teaching rooms for tutors as we have not found a significant benefit for either students or teachers and it has on occasions delayed the start of form time activities for students. Form times will continue to take place at the start and the end of the school day.

I would like to take the opportunity to wish you all a happy and restful Easter holiday and I look forward to working with families and students to continue to raise standards and celebrate the great successes of our students.

Yours Sincerely

J. Smith

Ms J. Smith
Deputy Headteacher