



Issue 109
May 2024
Week 2

Ridgeway Academy

Headteacher's Message

As we move through the final term of the year, it is time to reflect upon the progress we have made against our Plan for School Improvement. The Vision and Aims and Key Priorities are shown here.

There have been a number of policies and standards enforced over the course of this academic year and I wanted to take a moment to reflect on the impact this is having and thank families for their support in bringing about positive changes.

So far this academic year, the number of reward points issued to students has more than doubled, increasing from 70067 last year to 146419 so far this year. This means the average number of reward points per student has increased from 69 points to 138 points. On July 8th we will run our annual rewards trip to Thorpe park to recognise the excellent efforts of 300 key stage 3 students.

The Mobile device policy implemented this academic year has significantly reduced the number of device related incidents. Thank you for supporting this policy. It has had and continues to have a positive impact on the overall culture of the school.



No mobile phones

Headteacher's message cont...

We continue to work hard to achieve consistency across all standards we apply and this is especially true of uniform standards. Please can I take the opportunity to remind families of the following expectations:

- ◇ Students should not wear jewellery other than a single pair of stud earrings and a wrist watch to school, any other form of jewellery will be confiscated.
- ◇ Students wearing skirts can wear dark or flesh coloured tights or ankle socks only. Long socks pulled up are not acceptable and students will be sanctioned where they are worn.

When the weather begins to warm up, students will be advised of any uniform changes, until this occurs, students must continue to wear ties and blazers. Jumpers are optional under blazers.

The detention system has and is being reviewed as part of the school's wider behaviour policy and strategy and I want to be clear, if a detention is issued pupils will be expected to attend unless there is a compelling and substantiated medical reason. The school is committed, and taking steps to ensure that the behaviour policy is applied consistently and fairly across the school.

Thank you for your ongoing support as we continue to work to enforce the highest standards of presentation and conduct. We are really looking forward to celebrating our many student successes with you over this summer term.

Mrs S Mitcherson
Headteacher

Miss J Smith
**Pastoral,
Deputy Headteacher**

Vision and Aims



OUR VISION	EVERYONE CAN ACHIEVE				
OUR PURPOSE	To provide all students the opportunity to achieve and be successful in ALL aspects of their lives				
OUR AIMS	To ensure all students have access to an ambitious curriculum that is broad, balanced and flexible in meeting the needs of all learners and prepares them effectively for future life.	To deliver consistently excellent and personalised teaching and learning which is adapted effectively to ensure all students achieve ambitious outcomes and develop a love of learning.	To embed a culture of exceptional conduct and behaviour for learning which promotes an ethos of high aspirations, meaningful relationships and respect for everyone.	To grow and challenge all learners beyond the classroom, providing rich, inclusive opportunities to develop character, resilience, wellbeing and a deeper understanding of the world.	
OUR VALUES	RESPECT	RESPONSIBILITY	RELATIONSHIPS		
OUR LEARNERS	<i>Our community is built on mutual respect for ourselves and each other. We demonstrate respect at all times</i>	<i>We take responsibility for our learning, our behaviour and our attitudes; striving for excellence at all times</i>	<i>We celebrate and value the diversity of our school community. We build strong, fully inclusive relationships</i>		
KEY AREA TARGETS 2023 - 2024	LEADERSHIP & MANAGEMENT	QUALITY OF EDUCATION	BEHAVIOUR & ATTITUDES	PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT	QUALITY OF EDUCATION SIXTH FORM
	To empower and equip staff to deliver our high expectations rapidly and effectively	To embed an ambitious curriculum that is adapted and implemented consistently well, and leads to rapid progress for ALL.	To ensure consistently high standards of behaviour and attendance are fully embedded	To embed the value of respect through all aspects of school life and by all stakeholders	To provide an ambitious and broad provision which leads to improved outcomes, destinations and retention

Key objectives 2023-24



LEADERSHIP & MANAGEMENT	LM1. To continue to drive a culture of collective ownership and accountability of our school improvement priorities	LM2. To ensure feedback and monitoring is systematic and targeted to narrow the gaps in progress for all students	LM3. To ensure the curriculum meets the needs of all students, including underserved learners and those with high prior attainment	LM4. To maintain robust measures of quality assurance for professional practice and leadership throughout the school to ensure consistent implementation and offer effective intervention and training	LM5. To maintain and develop a positive and open culture of safeguarding to ensure our students and staff are safe at all times
QUALITY OF EDUCATION	QE1. To strengthen subject middle leadership to drive rapid improvement, promotion of high expectations and standards, and effective accountability	QE2. To ensure subject teachers have strong subject knowledge, pedagogy and delivery in the classroom so that students develop detailed knowledge, deepen their understanding and achieve as well as they should	QE3. To provide all teachers with the skills to adapt their teaching effectively to meet the needs and engage all students', in particular underserved learners and those with high prior attainment		
BEHAVIOUR & ATTITUDES	BA1. To rapidly improve attendance and reduce severe and persistent absence to meet national average	BA2. To embed a culture of the highest aspirations for students which is reflected within their behaviour for learning and conduct	BA3. To develop and celebrate resilient and motivated learners, who take pride in their achievements		
PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT	PD1. To ensure students and staff fully embrace the school's values	PD2. To ensure our students' curriculum offer extends beyond the academic. To ensure that students are provided with and engage in extensive opportunities to develop and discover interests and expand their cultural capital	PD3. To systematically gather key stakeholder voice through which the mental and physical wellbeing of all stakeholders will remain at the heart of all that we do		
QUALITY OF EDUCATION SIXTH FORM	SF1. To ensure all Sixth Form students make the best progress they can	SF2. To systematically raise the aspirations and expectations of ALL students to ensure that students are well informed about life after Ridgeway and are ready for the next phase of their education whether that be University, employment or other training opportunities	SF3. To increase recruitment to the Sixth Form through marketing review and development of the curriculum. Work to develop the USP at Ridgeway		

Students of the Week

Each week Heads of Year provide Mrs Mitcherson with students of the week nominations.

These students come out of lesson at 1:10pm on a Friday and make their way to the Headteachers office for a prize (hot chocolate, chocolate bar, cake or ice cream in the summer).

Year 7 - Week commencing 22nd April

Archie H	7 Anderson
Dylan P	7 Franklin
Leo D	7 Hawking
Louis T	7 Lytton
Ossie J	7 Mandela
Linus H	7 Parks
Luke C	7 Turing
Lily R	<i>HOY Nomination</i>

Year 10 - Week commencing 25th March

James C	11 Anderson
Alfie D	11 Hawking
Ella G	11 Lytton
Alfie J	11 Mandela
Alex B	11 Parks
Rose K	11 Turing
Freddie H	<i>HOY Nomination</i>

Mr R Nelson
Assistant Headteacher

Top 20 House Points

Top 20 House Point Achievers 18th March 2024 to 24th April.

Name	Tutor Group	Points
Lewis F	8 Parks	161
Finn S	8 Parks	124
Eva H	8 Anderson	123
Leah C	8 Lytton	120
Sanjana K	8 Lytton	119
Katie L	8 Anderson	119
James S	8 Anderson	119
George R	8 Parks	117
Lilly R	8 Lytton	115
Daisy C	7 Hawking	114
Rafael H	8 Parks	112
Didi E	8 Anderson	110
Jaeden U	8 Lytton	110
Kieran S	8 Lytton	108
Ethan B	7 Anderson	107
Sam H	8 Anderson	107
Michael O	9 Mandela	107
Dylan B	8 Parks	105
Harley A	7 Hawking	103
Grace D	7 Hawking	103

Neurodiversity Support Hub

For Parents, Carers and Professionals

We can offer support, signposting and guidance about a whole range of things including but not limited to:

- Understanding ADHD/Autism
- Distressed Behaviours
 - Anxiety
 - School

No
Diagnosis
Required

The phones are answered by our team of parents and carers of neurodivergent children and young people



Are you a
Parent, Carer
or
Professional?

0127 833963

supporthub@add-vance.org

Open Monday-Friday
9 AM - 1PM



We Can't:
- Give updates/
fast track places
on waiting lists
- Recommend
specific private
assessors

Here to support, reach out for a listening ear



After School Clubs

We offer a wide choice of After School Activities. Please visit SOCs to view them:

<https://www.socscms.com/login/4393/>



Submit a Story to Ridgeway News

If you would like to have an article published in the school's newsletter Ridgeway News, please fill out the form [here](#) which will be sent to the editor for review.

Your article could be a news item, an account of a school trip, an achievement or a book review.



Year 7 RAA Programme

The RAA Programme has recently started for selected students in Year 7! The aim of the Year 7 RAA is to bridge the gaps within transition, connecting targeted students to a range of opportunities to increase physical activity, wellbeing, confidence and self-esteem. These students will embark on a 10-week programme of physical activities, sports and workshops that will hopefully inspire them to make new friends, try new things and begin to make conscious healthier choices.

For our first week of the RAA programme we had scheduled 'The Food Teacher' as well as 'Forest School of Karate'! The selected students had the opportunity to try new foods and focus on their cookery skills, whilst working independently.



The selected students created Nacho boxes with cheesy tortillas, guacamole and jalapenos. All students were able to take recipes home which should inspire students to make these meals at home for their families. The students learnt new skills such as: food preparation, food safety and also attention to detail in order to ensure the food is ready for serving.



Students also had the opportunity to take part in a session of Karate run by the coach of a local Karate club, they learnt how to perform a Kata, which is a sequence of patterns and movements used in Karate. Our Karate session has increased the confidence of students and has allowed them to take part in physical activity.



The students thoroughly enjoyed their first week of the RAA programme and couldn't wait for the activities on the following Wednesday!

Miss N Ferris
School Games Organiser & School Sports Coordinator

Parking Outside of School

If you are collecting your child by vehicle at the end of the school day, please park respectfully and be mindful of local residents who may need to access their driveways when parking in the layby opposite the school. Please do not park on the hazard yellow lines, on the grass verges and across residents driveways.

Where possible please arrange to meet your child a short walk from the school.

We thank you for your co-operation on this matter.

Miss M Harrigan
School Operations Manager

School Vacancies

The school is currently recruiting for the following roles:

Teacher of English (ECTs welcome to apply)

Closing Date: 9:00am Monday 13th May 2024
Start Date: September 2024

Cover/Learning Supervisor

Closing Date: 9:00am Monday 13th May 2024

Assistant Subject Leader of Mathematics with potential to lead Mathematics Department within 12-18 months

Closing Date: 9:00am Monday 13th May 2024
Start Date: September 2024

Director of Mathematics

Closing Date: 9:00am Monday 13th May 2024
Start Date: September 2024

Deputy SENDCO

Closing Date: 9:00am Monday 13th May 2024
Start Date: September 2024

Subject Leader of Computer Science

Closing Date: 9:00am Monday 13th May 2024
Start Date: September 2024

Teacher of English with responsibility for Reading/Literacy (Temporary Maternity Cover)

Closing Date: 9:00am Monday 13th May 2024
Start Date: September 2024

Teaching Assistant

Closing Date: 9:00am Monday 13th May 2024
Start Date: June 2024

For more information visit:
<https://ridgeway.herts.sch.uk/vacancies/>

Mrs K Biss
Human Resources Officer

ATTENDANCE

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?



ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL

Do you know what your attendance was last school week?

Do you know your overall attendance for the year?

Do you know how many school days you have missed this year?

Do you know how many late marks you have this school year?

Make sure you know of this information, you can ask your form tutor for this, and work hard to improve it each week!















Ridgeway Pupils with 100% Attendance - 18th March 2024 to 24th April

7 Anderson	Kaydence M	Evie W	8 Hawking	8 Parks	Angelo G
Martin B	Mia R		Faith C	Zachary A	Clara H
Lewis B	Candice V	7 Parks	Lois F	Jasmine B	Jasmine H
Oscar B	Leo W	Asia-Kai B	Gabrielle H	Keelie-Ann B	Harley K
Ethan B		Brooke F	Sinead K	Dylan B	Joziah-Ray M
Jaeden C	7 Lytton	Tyler G	Timur K	Jayden C	Cameron N
Max E	Ishan A	Linus H	Harrison N	Lewis F	Alexander N
Zyra F	Ayden A	Dantes J	Laurie P	Ryan H	Archie P
Autumn G	Annie B	Zachary L	Georgia T	Savannah K	Olga P
Rayyan I	Theodore B	Liliana N	Charlie T	George R	Roisin R
Lexie-Mai I	Summer C	Lacey N	Nathan Y	Tom R	Archie S
Emil J	Tegan C	Leah P		Olivia S	Poppy W
Mason M	Darcey D	Alfie P	8 Lytton	Finn S	
Helen O	Lucas D	James S	Elizabeth D	Henry W	9 Hawking
Harrison S	Bianca D	Jaiden S	Bella F		Beau B
Ella T	Riley F	Zachary T	Riley H	8 Turing	Luca B
	Olivia G	Leo W	Lashaun K	Nyla A	Gracie D
7 Franklin	Owen H		Sanjana K	Willow B	Aishu F
Melody B	Tyler J	7 Turing	Lilly R	Brian B	Dalila F
Julia D	Samuel K	Joshua C	Kieran S	Lily C	Jessica F
Lexi H	Gabriela K	Mia F	Layla W	Benjamin D	Finley G
Layland H	Swazie M	Troy H	Nicholas Z	Emmie D	Poppy H
Lily L	Alexandru S	Connor L		Jack F	Archie H
Chloe L	Daisy T	Nellie M	8 Mandela	Kimberley G	Elizabeth M
Raphael M	Louis T		India A	Kaila-Kelly G	Kalen T
Angus M	Eva V	8 Anderson	Olaf B	Alina I	Jasper T
Dylan P		Megan B	Harvey C	Kenan K	Amber W
Mishti P	7 Mandela	Anna C	Lacey-Mae C	Eleanor M	
Theo P	Gracie A	Kiara C	Leon G	Ben P	9 Lytton
Edward Q	Alissia A	Didi E	Lexi G	Phoenix R	Hsian A
Roxy T	Braidon B	Skye G	Lois G	Frank R	Felicity A
Zachary T	Harrison D	Eva H	Olivia M	Samuel S	Lucy B
Alfie W	Maia G	Amillie H	Elliot P	Maika T	Ben F
	Isaac H	Katie L	Sienna S	Niamh T	Oliver F
7 Hawking	Kieron K	Halle M	Alfie S	Thomas T	Jessica H
Maisie C	Andrei K	Ellie O	Jake V	Kiera W	Amelia H
Daisy C	Tinashe M	James S	Ruby W		Alex H
Grace D	Alfie N	Libby T	Lewis W	9 Anderson	George I
Jessie G	Bo R	Jasper T		Jack C	Isabella J
Olivia M	Aston-Kai T			Tia D	Libby R

Oliver T	Olivia T Sophia W	Isla T	Ethan N Maksymilian N Archie P Honey-Mae T Anna-Mae V	Jake C Theo D Alfie D Freddie H Riley K Jack M Kayleigh M Codi R Isobel S Rhys S Rebecca W	Ethan H Jonnell M Max M Kane N Isla P Harrison T Alani T Chloe T
9 Mandela Ellen A Eric G Eva G Theo K James M Michael O Jayna R Arron Z	10 Anderson Kian B Annabel B Aimee F Lauren H Maddison M Kobie N Evie R Jasmine R Victor R Verity R Joseph T Amalia T Tamara T	10 Lytton James D Marley G Ella G Dora S Oliver S Ava S Phoebe W Carson W Mitchell W	10 Turing Ellie A Callum G Jack G Evie H Callum H Alfie J Jake W Oliver W Corby W	11 Lytton Max B Rose C Finley C Ryan D Shay F Ella G Keira G Harley-Ann G Nathan H Riley J Lenny L Olivia M CJ M Amy M Jonathan S	11 Parks Rhys B Callum C Ashton C Lewis C Liam D Jay F Harry F Kaci L Chloe S Joe V
9 Parks Seth B Shylah-Malia B Verity B Tyrese F Alicja L Niamh M Isabella N Dexter R Solara T Lucas W	10 Hawking Faye B Hakeem B Riley B Aydan B Isabella C Ella D Harry E Kya F Ademola G Daniel H Maia K Alex S Jaden T	10 Mandela Nathan B Lukas B Ethan C Jenson G Maddie H Sophie H Lexie H Kyle P Bethany P Harmonie Y	11 Anderson Lilith A Max A Archie B James C Leo G Eloise H David J Ethan L Caleb O Daniel S	11 Turing Leona C Morgan K William P Logan W Riley W	
9 Turing Ehis G Kacei G Emily H Ebonie P Vladimir R Scarlett R Jamie T		10 Parks Thomas C Francis C Ruby E Sophie G Dejoie J Connor K	11 Hawking Niamh-Lisa B Heather B	11 Mandela Aylin B Callum C	

House Points

Anderson	Hawking	Lytton	Mandela	Parks	Turing
					
54213	51171	55557	58508	56700	62169
Elizabeth Garrett Anderson was an English physician and suffragist. She was the first woman to qualify as a doctor in Britain and was the founder of the country's first hospital for women.	Stephen Hawking was the noted physicist who contributed deeply to our understanding of the physical world and space, and worked despite suffering from Motor Neurone Disease.	Constance Lytton was the suffragette, writer and speaker who campaigned for prison reform and women's rights under an alias to avoid special treatment due to her family connections.	Nelson Mandela was the first black president of South Africa, who after being imprisoned for twenty seven years, was freed and led a multi-ethnic government to bring an end to apartheid.	Rosa Parks is known as the mother of the civil rights movement after fighting for racial equality in the USA through her leading role in the Montgomery bus boycott, which lasted over a year.	Alan Turing was a mathematician, widely celebrated as the father of computer science after cracking the Enigma Code during WWII. Turing was later subject to discrimination due to his sexuality.
					

Currently in the lead are Turing with 62169 points. Last updated 24.04.2024

New Staff Introductions

Lucy Whittaker - Teacher of Maths

I am an Early Career Teacher Year 2 after finishing 2 years of TeachFirst and have just had 2 terms off to travel South East Asia, Australia and New Zealand! I am excited to be a part of the community at Ridgeway Academy and look forward to getting to know everyone!



Justine Webb - Lead Practitioner for Mathematics

I've been teaching Maths since 2008. I started my career in South Africa, and later became a co-owner of a private education facility. I have never met a staff body so friendly, welcoming and supportive. Our students are amazing and I couldn't be happier to be part of this team.



Luke Gallagher - Physical Education Teacher

I worked in Enfield for 4 years teaching GCSE Geography. I am now the Transition Lead at Ridgeway and Head of Year 7 (September 2024). I decided to become a Resilience and Sport Therapy Coach using my previous experiences. My passion is to use these experiences to encourage students to never give up even though they can encounter difficult situations in and outside the school environment. This is something that is learnt through experience and I know that students will develop this with the support of all staff and myself.



I play Gaelic football which is an Irish sport and train 5 times a week. Last year, we were the third best team in London. This year, I am training with my teammates to ensure that we are the best. I travel from Bedfordshire to Enfield three times a week to train and have 100% training attendance. I use the attitude of minimal gains to push me past my limits and I know that I can use this to get the best out of my new students.

I am really excited about joining Ridgeway Academy as our school is continually reflecting and adjusting to

the needs of all students to ensure that they grow and develop from teenagers to young adults.

I am extremely excited about having the opportunity to support and develop the new cohort of Year 7 Ridgeway students. I understand that students may find it difficult to adjust to the new school environment. However, from working in primary schools previously and completing research, I have identified the gaps to ensure that steps are taken to make this transition smooth for all students.

Paul Flanagan - Head of Business Studies and Careers

I have been teaching for 11 years and I have experience of being Head of Department for just under half of that time.



I enjoy running and trying to keep fit.

I am looking forward to the new challenge of leading the Business Department and contributing towards the careers provision within the School.

Ernie - Therapy Dog

Ernie is 2 years old and was born on 17th March 2018 - St Patrick's Day. He is a Maltese/toy poodle cross (Maltipoo). He lives at home with Mrs Rossington and her family. He has a big dog-sister called Lola. His favourite game is fetch with his small tennis ball (it has to be small because he is). His favourite toy is anything he can shake around and growl with. His favourite food is chicken but he will try and do what you want him to do for a treat.



At Ridgeway we are committed to developing a culture where **equality, diversity and inclusion** are **celebrated**

K2

Monday	Lunchtime Hub Club
Tuesday	Diversity
Wednesday	Lunchtime Hub Club
Thursday	Young Carers
Friday	Lunchtime Hub Club

Head of Year News

Year 7 - Mrs C Hunt

Exceptional effort has been demonstrated by all students across the year group in their lessons and beyond. Please can parents remind students of the uniform policy. Lets have a great half term year 7 and win back our title of the most rewarded year group!!

Year 8 - Mr K Amstutz

Congratulations to all Year 8 students for their dedicated efforts in both lessons and extracurricular activities. Year 8 consistently earns recognition as the most awarded year group each week, and they're currently in pursuit of surpassing Year 7 for the overall title!

I eagerly anticipate a summer term filled with hard work across all subjects. I'm excited to witness students taking pride in their schoolwork and accomplishments.

Year 9 - Miss G Picone

It's been a joyous return welcoming Year 9 students back to Ridgeway Academy this term. I extend my gratitude to all parents for your support for the morning line-ups. Your cooperation ensures that Year 9 students uphold the high standards and expectations of Ridgeway Academy as they transition into some of the elder members of our school community.

Throughout this term, our Year group has engaged in discussions during form times regarding revision strategies and techniques. This proactive approach aims to adequately prepare our students for the challenges they will face in the upcoming years. I am pleased to share that form tutors have provided positive feedback, noting the mature and focused attitudes of our students as they navigate their academic options and strive for success.

Lastly, I would also like to take this opportunity to recognise a group of remarkable students who have received commendation from the Mid Herts District for their outstanding contributions. These students stepped in at the last minute to support their team, led capably by Jack Cooper. Let's give a round of applause to Sam Slatter, Dexter Rodway, and Alan Kedzierski for their exemplary dedication and sportsmanship.

Year 10 - Miss N Wilson

Well done Year 10 in your mock exams! You all did fantastic and behaved well. Now it is time to knuckle down in your last term of Year 10!

Year 11 - Mr M Pring

Welcome back to your final half term Year 11! The GCSE exam period is almost upon us. I just want to encourage all students to continue working exceptionally hard to achieve the very best outcomes possible. The amount of effort that you have all put into your studies has been extremely commendable

and I am sure it will all pay off over the next couple of months. Remember to keep using your time wisely to push for the absolute best grades that you can. We all wish you every success for the exam period.

Sixth Form - Mrs N Picariello

Year 12 have a busy half term ahead of them: finishing Y12 courses, preparing for Y12 exams, and planning Work Experience for the end of term.

Year 13 are now in their final half term at Ridgeway, with their final coursework submissions and final exams fast approaching. Their last day of teaching in the Consortium is Friday 10th May. You've got this Y13 - the final push towards the exam period is upon us! We wish you every success.

Attendance News - Mrs M Tinker

A huge thank you to families who have supported the Attendance team.

318 students have improving attendance, with the average improvement being 0.29%. 486 students have attendance of 94% and above and 1000's of merits have been given out. Well done.

The students have shown resilience during exams and it has been great to see them doing so well.

Pupil News

Congratulations to Jake who won a bronze medal in his Individual Cadet Fight at the weekend and again, in the Cadet Teams Event.

The British Four Nations Competition is one of the biggest competitions an association can do, and has been offered a trial with the England team.

We are very proud of his achievement— Well done Jake!



Subject Focus - Science

Year 7

Year 7 are currently learning about chemical reactions and different waves including light and sound. The students have enjoyed the practical side of Chemistry, investigating how different chemicals react in different ways such as combustion reactions and endothermic and exothermic reactions. Students have also enjoyed discovering the science behind how we see objects and colours and how we hear different sounds.

Year 8

Year 8 have been learning about electricity and magnetism and metals and acids. They have enjoyed building circuits, constructing electromagnets and investigating how the strength of these can be changed. They have also been enjoying learning about acids and their reactions with different metals.

Year 9

Year 9 have made a fantastic start to their GCSE studies. They have been calculating densities of regular and irregular objects using Archimedes' principle. They have also been learning about different communicable diseases and how our bodies fight off different pathogens.

Year 10

Year 10 have recently completed their first set of PPE exams. They have been working extremely hard in their first year of GCSE content and hopefully have used these exams to showcase how much they have learnt. Moving forward, we hope they use this as a learning experience of what to expect in their quickly approaching GCSE exams. It is important to celebrate the things that the students have mastered but also ensure to revisit anything that they are still unsure about.

Year 11

Year 11 have been working extremely hard in their final year. The first Science exam, Biology, is fast approaching – 10th May! Their teachers have meticulously planned a revision half term which focuses on core scientific knowledge across all three sciences that students regularly struggle with. Pairing this with exam practice will ensure that students are in the best position for their exams that they have been working constantly towards for two years. Good luck Year 11!

Mr T Mortimer
Director of Science

Step and Sweat

Dance yourself into a healthier-self. Join Strictly Come Dancing Choreographer Patrick Raja-Helm at his fitness/dance class.

Every Tuesday 7.30pm-8.15pm

@ Ridgeway Academy

Every Saturday 11am-11.45am

@ Woodhall Community Center

www.patrickrajahelm.com

07725847438

Draw to Learn Week 20th - 24th May

In May, students of all age groups will be taking part in a Draw to Learn week. During this week subject teachers will use drawing activities to help students learn new information. Students will have assemblies leading up to the event so they know what to expect and they will be asked to complete some short survey's so we can understand more about the impact it had on their learning. We are excited to launch this week as it will open up creativity in students and staff alike. Keep your eyes peeled on social media for updates of the week's events.

Mrs Parsons
Subject Leader of Art





Ridgeway Academy

'Everybody can achieve'

We're Hiring!

- Would you like a **part-time** job?
- Do you want a role within the **local community**?
- Are you good with **young people**?

We are recruiting EXAM INVIGILATORS

- Flexible, part-time hours
- Training provided
- Term-time only
- Free parking

Scan the QR code for more information or email

appointments@ridgeway.aat.school

to come in for an informal chat.





Who's in Charge?

A FREE 8 WEEK COURSE FOR PARENTS/CARERS LIVING WITH A STRONG-WILLED CHILD

COURSE COVERS:

- ENTITLEMENT VERSUS RESPONSIBILITY
- CONSEQUENCES
- ANGER
- ASSERTIVENESS
- SELF-CARE
- COOPERATIVE FAMILY RELATIONSHIPS

PROGRAMME CONSISTS OF 8 X 2 HOUR WEEKLY SESSIONS

DATES:

Wednesday evenings
from 1st May - 26th
June (no session 29th
May)

TIME: 6:30-8:30pm

VENUE: Ridgeway
Academy

To book a place, please use the QR code or go to
this link:
<https://forms.office.com/e/CCAfJVw5Ps>

Course booking form - Who's in
Charge? (8 session course)
Summer evenings 2024





Ridgeway Academy

'Everybody can achieve'

We're Hiring!

- Would you like a **term-time** job?
- Do you want a role within the **local community**?
- Are you good with **young people**?

We are recruiting TEACHING ASSISTANTS

- Flexible hours
- Training provided
- Term-time only
- Free parking

Scan the QR code for more information or email

appointments@ridgeway.aat.school

to come in for an informal chat.



Support for Parents

Positive Impacts of Digital Devices on Mental Wellness:

- Increased feelings of self-efficacy through learning new tasks.
- Expanded sense of community, especially through gaming.
- Decreased depression by providing distraction, though entertainment screen time should be moderated.

Negative Impacts of Digital Devices on Mental Wellness:

- Risk of depression from excessive screen time leading to isolation.
- Disruption of sleep patterns due to exposure to blue light.
- Decreased self-esteem from social comparison on social media platforms.
- Reduction in physical activity and exercise opportunities.
- Exposure to cyberbullying, particularly for young users.

Tips to Minimize Negative Impact of Screen Time:

- Balance screen time with extracurricular activities.
- Implement screen-free bedrooms and limit screen usage to common areas.
- Supervise children's screen time and maintain open communication.
- Schedule designated times to unplug from digital devices.
- Allocate time for physical movement and exercise to counteract sedentary screen time.

Conclusion:

- Acknowledges the benefits and drawbacks of digital device usage.
- Emphasizes the importance of understanding and managing screen time for mental wellness.
- Encourages mindful usage to ensure digital devices enrich rather than detract from life and well-being.

Mrs M Tinker
Assistant Headteacher

Student Learning Expectations

Standards for Learning

Ridgeway Routines must be consistently conformed to:

- Full uniform, worn correctly at all times - top buttons, blazers, no black jumpers which aren't Ridgeway logo
- Students are equipped and ready for learning
- All students stand behind chairs in silence at the start of lessons
- Green pen REACT or Recall starters are completed in silence EVERY LESSON
- Students must be on time to all lessons. Sanctions issued for more than 5 minutes late - C3
- All students stand behind chairs in silence for a uniform check before leaving the classroom row by row

Equipment

Students must be prepared for learning - **every lesson, every day.** Form Tutors will check full equipment **each morning** during form time. It will be a school standards focus for the next two weeks.

All students must have the following equipment:

- Two black pens
- Two pencils
- A green pen
- Pencil sharpener
- Rubber
- Ruler
- Glue stick
- Pair of compasses
- Scientific calculator (preferably Casio Classwiz)



Consequences

C1 will be logged for a lack of equipment (daily).

3 x C1 within a week will result in a C3.

Tutors will be communicating with parents regarding missing equipment

Equipment can be purchased from reception where necessary

Parents will be communicated with to ensure they ensure all students are equipped and ready to learn

Support may be given to families who may be struggling with providing equipment through contacting their Head of Year

The Ridgeway

- Holding high standards of uniform and equipment is the easiest way to show your teachers you are ready and willing to learn.
- Having respect for yourself and ensuring you are ready to learn is one of the most important things you can do at school
- School is for learning and every lesson counts - this means **arriving on time, with correct uniform and equipment, with the correct mindset.**
- Missing equipment slows learning down and causes unnecessary conflict with teachers

It is the Ridgeway to be prepared for learning and take responsibility for this!

Mrs L Hyde
Deputy Headteacher

Sports Centre News

Rambino's Coffee to Go!

Rambino's Coffee were delighted to receive a 5 star hygiene rating from the food standards agency, congratulations! The opening hours for Rambino's can be found on their social media channels @rambinoscoffee on a weekly basis.



Community Sessions at Ridgeway Academy

There is so much going on at Ridgeway Academy, with over 1,000 people taking part in community based sessions during the evenings, weekends and holiday periods. We are pleased to welcome Strive Football Academy in May Half Term and the Summer holidays. Coaching is delivered by UEFA qualified, ex-Tottenham player Jesse Waller Lassen. Visit <https://strivefootballacademy.com/> for further information.

Barracudas will again be joining us in May Half Term and the Summer holidays.

To book, please visit: <https://www.barracudas.co.uk/camps/welwyn/> We are pleased to share an exclusive Ridgeway parent discount code!

Welwyn Garden City Youth FC are pleased to announce their new **TIKA-TAKA** Mini sessions for children aged 4-7. They take place on our brand new 3G every Saturday morning from 9-10am. Full details can be found on the poster.

Stevenage FC Foundation are still running their FREE Premier League KICKS programme every Friday night from 8-9pm on our brand new 3G pitch. Full details can be found on the poster.

3G Availability

Our state-of-the-art 3G facility, laid in summer 2022 is a perfect space for Football training and is equipped with various size goals.

We have some limited, regular availability on a Monday and Friday, please see full details on the poster or feel free to email:

GoodshipR@ridgeway.aat.school

Dance Studio Availability

We also have some very limited availability in our Sports Centre Dance Studio – full details can be found on the advert.

Mr R Goodship
Sports Centre Manager

FRIDAY SLOTS		TUESDAY SLOTS	
4 PM - 5 PM	£32.00	6:30 PM - 7:30 PM	£32.00
5 PM - 6 PM	£32.00	7:30 PM - 8:30 PM	£32.00
6 PM - 7 PM	£32.00	8:30 PM - 9:30 PM	£32.00
7 PM - 8 PM	£32.00		
8 PM - 9 PM	£32.00		

School Term and Holiday Dates 2024

SUMMER TERM 2024

Friday 3 rd May	Early closing 12:15pm
Monday 6 th May	Bank and Public Holiday
Monday 27 th - Friday 31 st May	Half Term
Sunday 23 rd - Wednesday 26 th June	Year 10 Geography field trip to Wales/Bristol
Friday 28 th June	Year 11 Prom Knebworth Barns School of Hard Knocks Trip
Saturday 29 th - Sunday 30 th June	Bronze DofE Expedition
Monday 1 st July	Year 12 Careers Conference
Monday 8 th to Friday 12 th July	Enrichment Week
Sunday 7 th - Wednesday 10 th July	Year 9 Geography field trip to Wales/Bristol
Monday 8 th to Friday 12 th July	Work Experience Year 10
Thursday 11 th July	Secondary Transfer Taster Day
Friday 19 th July	Last Day of Term
Monday 22 nd July	Shadow Inset Day (school closed)
Tuesday 23 rd July	Shadow Inset Day (school closed)
Wednesday 24 th July	Shadow Inset Day (school closed)

PROVISIONAL School Term and Holiday Dates 2024-25

AUTUMN TERM 2024

Monday 2 nd September	Start of Term
Monday 28 th October - 1 st November	Half Term
Friday 20 th December	Last Day of Term

SPRING TERM 2025

Monday 6 th January	Start of Term
Monday 17 th - Friday 21 st February	Half Term
Friday 4 th April	Last Day of Term

SUMMER TERM 2025

Tuesday 22 nd April	Start of Term
Monday 26 th - Friday 30 th May	Half Term
Friday 18 th July	Last Day of Term

