



Newsletter

Ridgeway Academy
Skills and Experiences for Life

18th January 2019

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5LH

Mr Frost has taken over the responsibility as the form tutor for 5LH.

Mrs Hill provides lessons during form time for pupils in Year 9 and 10 who would like to complete an extra GCSE in Art and Design. This change will give more time for these pupils to excel in their additional GCSE. We know that 5LH would want to thank Mrs Hill for her care and support in the first term. We also know that Mr Frost, a very experienced member of staff, will be able to offer the same support and care. Any parents of 5LH, please contact Mr Frost in the future should you need to do so.

Year 9 GCSE Pupils

Year 9 GCSE Media Studies will be visiting the BBC Media Centre in Birmingham in March to experience first-hand the different roles they could undertake in the industry. They will have opportunities to take part in radio productions; be able to visit the set of BBC Midlands Today; and will also be able to work with BBC journalists to refine their reporting skills.



In February, Year 9 GCSE English pupils will be visiting the Royal Shakespeare Company theatre in Stratford-Upon-Avon to watch a performance of 'As You Like It'. This is another fantastic opportunity for GCSE pupils to experience the pleasure of language and dramatics in preparation for their study of complex GCSE texts.



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A Reminder of Uniform Expectations for KS2, KS3 and KS4.

We are writing to remind and clarify to you the uniform expectations that apply to all pupils at Ridgeway Academy. We expect all of our young people to make the right choices about meeting our uniform expectations and will be supporting them to do so.

We are aware that many retail outlets identify their products as 'school wear' but in many cases the items do not comply with our uniform policy. This is particularly true for trousers and footwear so I would like to clarify these areas and invite you to review the accompanying uniform guidance. Trousers and skirts should be plain black and of an appropriate length and fit. Leggings, jeggings, jeans or similar items are not acceptable. If they 'look like Jeans' we will consider them to be Jeans. 'Skinny fit' is certainly in fashion at the moment but is not acceptable as Ridgeway Academy uniform; we ask that you send your child in appropriate tailored school trousers. Pupils MUST remove hoodies and coats as they enter the classroom in preparation for their learning.

Blazers are compulsory for Year 7 onwards. Expectations of Hair and make-up: No make-up is allowed in Years 5, 6 and 7. Discreet make up only in Year 8, 9, 10 & 11 (no brightly coloured eyeshadow, contour blusher, lipstick or eyebrow shaping). Moderate hair styles with no unnatural hair colours. No coloured nail varnish, no false nails. Ear piercings are limited to one per ear and studs only must be worn. No facial piercings under any circumstances. We will ask that they are removed.

If these expectations are not followed without a reasonable explanation then, we will deal with it in accordance with our school policies.

Trousers

✓ Plain black or dark grey and formal in style.

✓ Leggings, jeans, 'skinny' trousers are informal styles and are not appropriate.

What makes a pair of jeans, jeans?

- 4/5 pockets
- a denim type material
- studs on the pockets
- brand labels on the waistband

✗ (Images of jeans and leggings)

✗ (Image of a hoodie)

✗ (Image of a tie)

✓ (Image of a school blazer)

✗ (Image of a striped tie)

✗ (Image of a blue tie)

✓ (Image of a blue tie)

New KS4 tie for Year 9 pupils ONLY

Skirts

Girls are required to wear a knee length, plain black skirt.

✗ (Image of a short, tight skirt)

Tight, short skirts are not acceptable.

✓ (Image of a school blazer)

School blazer with school badge on pocket.

Compulsory from year 7 onwards.

Shoes

Students should wear plain, black shoes.

Trainers are not acceptable.

✗ (Image of a sneaker)

✗ (Image of a sneaker)

✗ (Image of a sneaker)

✓ (Image of a school shoe)

✓ (Image of a school shoe)

Tie for pupils in Y5 to Y8



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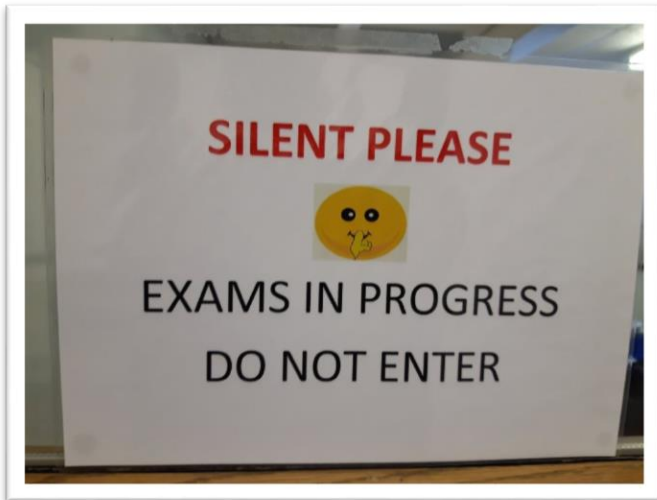
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Year 10 Mock Exams

Year 10 language pupils successfully completed their first oral mock exams this week, well done all involved.



Dates for your Diary



Thurs 24th Jan – Year 6 Parents Evening

Thurs 14th Feb – Valentine's Day Disco

Thurs 31st Jan – Year 6 SATS Information Evening

Thurs 28th Feb – Year 8 Parents Evening



Toilet Doors

As you may be aware, we have taken the decision to remove the outer toilet doors to all pupil washroom facilities. The Senior Leadership Team has had to make this difficult decision due to the ongoing issues we have had both during break and lesson time.

This has been done to remove the temptation for some pupils to use the toilets as a meeting place, which at times led to disruptive low-level behaviour issues.

All cubicles still have doors on them to allow pupils the privacy they need.

Since the doors have been removed, we have seen a significant improvement already.

In line with other schools and other organisations where the public attend, this is not uncommon.