

June 2025



RIDGEWOOD  
SCHOOL

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Dear Parent/Carer

I am writing to give you some further updates on key issues.

### **Uniform**

I have written to parents, on two previous occasions, to inform you of our decision to remove skirts from the school uniform from 1 September 2025. Initially we had said that trousers would have to be grey. However, we have taken feedback from students and parents and decided that trousers can either be plain grey or black (this applies to girls and boys). They **must not** be denim or leggings. We hope that this will make purchasing uniform much easier and more affordable. I informed the students of this decision last week during assemblies and some students have already made the switch to trousers. I understand that some manufacturers are marketing their trousers as 'school' trousers, but please check them carefully before you buy them, as some students have worn trousers this week which they also used for their PE lesson. If they can use them as sportswear in a PE lesson, they are not suitable as school trousers. To make it simpler to identify what we would determine are school trousers; **all trousers should have a button and/or a zip.**

Last half term I wrote to inform you of our need to insist that no false nails of any description (i.e. acrylics, builder gel, any other hardened gel) should be worn in school as this represents a health and safety issue. Nails must be natural, of a safe length and only nail polish can be applied (the breathable type that can be easily removed with standard nail polish remover). Sanctions will be given for any students failing to follow this policy and I hope that you can support us in this matter.

As we move into summer and the warmer weather, some of our classrooms become unbearably warm. On such occasions we will declare a 'blazer off' day. However, we will only make this decision partway through the day. Therefore, students must wear their blazers each day until they are informed of a blazer off day.

We have recently seen an increase in the use of plain black trainers. These are not allowed. Students must wear black, polishable shoes. Please ensure your child is wearing the appropriate footwear. Students not wearing appropriate footwear will be asked to change them and may be sanctioned.

### **School Day Timings**

I also wrote to you recently about the need to change the timings of the school day. Thank you for all the parents who responded and gave us feedback on the plans. Unfortunately, due to the DfE expectation of the minimum length of a school day the later finish time is fixed at 3.10pm. However, we have been able to take on board other feedback and made some tweaks to the timings. I appreciate that some of you will feel that we have not responded to your suggestions but it would be impossible to implement all the suggestions made. As I have said previously, until we are in the new school building we do not know for certain that the changes we are proposing will improve the student experience. Therefore, we will closely monitor the impact of the changes and determine if further changes are required.



**'Prepare for the road ahead'**

Respect

Responsibility

Resilience

The altered timings are below:

Time	Activity
8.40	Arrive on site
8.45-9.45	Period 1
9.45-11.05	Period 2 (including a 20min break for all year groups)*
11.05-12.05	Period 3
12.05-12.40	Intervention Y10, 11 Lunch Y7, 8, 9, 12 Form Y13
12.40-1.15	Form Y7, 8, 9, 12 Lunch Y10, 11, 13
1.15-2.10	Period 4
2.10-3.10	Period 5

\*Break timings

Y10, Y12	9.45-10.05
Y7	10.00-10.20
Y9	10.15-10.35
Y8	10.30-10.50
Y11, Y13	10.45-11.05

Thank you for your continued support and please use the 'contact us' if you have any queries.

Yours faithfully



A Peirson  
Headteacher