27 March 2018

Dear Parents and Carers

Uniform Standards

Every member of staff aims to make the first conversation with student a positive one, but a student failing to meet the uniform expectations can sometimes prevent this. In general, the standard of uniform at Rickmansworth is excellent with the vast majority of students meeting all expectations. However, there are some students who fail to meet these standards. I would therefore like to inform you of some trial changes to our Behaviour Policy to address this matter.

From the start of the summer term, any student wearing the items listed below will be issued with a C3 and the item confiscated. The item will be kept at student services and can only be collected by parents after 3.15pm on the first available Friday.

- Hoodies
- Headphones
- Rings
- Hooped earrings, cartilage and nose studs or when more than one stud is in each ear (one plain stud per earlobe is permitted)
- Trainers – not confiscated but students are allowed 24 hours to replace with appropriate shoes

Your son/daughter’s Form Tutor has overall responsibility to ensure uniform meets School standards, but all members of staff will be ensuring the items listed are not worn in School. Where a student persistently fails to meet these expectations, the Form Tutor will arrange a meeting with the parent. Full guidance on the uniform policy can be found on the student section of the website.

I would be very grateful if you could discuss the uniform expectations with your son/daughter, specifically those listed above and then make the necessary arrangements over the Easter holidays to ensure your son/daughter meets these expectations at the start of the summer term. http://www.rickmansworth.herts.sch.uk/777/students

Equipment

It is essential that students arrive to every lesson fully equipped and ready to learn. It is evident that some students are not able to do this as they do not have the appropriate equipment. We have also noticed a direct link between the quality of work of students who are fully equipped and those who are not.

Following a consultation, we have therefore decided to amend the equipment list (attached) for students and to amend the Behaviour Policy as a trial. From the start of the summer term your son/daughter’s Form Tutor will complete regular equipment checks to ensure your son/daughter is able to engage fully in all lessons. A C3 will be issued in the instance where equipment is missing.
Please note that only your son/daughter’s Form Tutor can issue a C3 for a missing piece of equipment.

House points will be awarded at the end of each Form time equipment check for students who have all the equipment.

Students will be given notice of equipment checks and should your son/daughter misplace a piece of equipment during the day, they can purchase replacements from the library and/or Maths department.

I would like to stress that these trial changes will not affect the majority of students who meet all uniform expectations and arrive to all lessons ready to learn.

Thank you for your support in ensuring that we continue to maintain high standards and ensuring that your son/daughter’s first conversation with all members of staff is a positive one.

Finally make I take this opportunity to wish you an enjoyable Easter.

Yours sincerely

Mrs A-M Sprenger / Mr G Burgess / Mr S White
[Acting] Director of Learning, Year 7 / Years 8 and 9 / Year 10