

5th September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Re: Return to School

I hope you have had a lovely summer holiday and that our students are rested and ready to return to us.

We are very much looking forward to seeing our students in school on Wednesday. I am sure that you will have seen lots of media coverage of RAAC (a light-weight concrete used in some school construction) and the Department for Education telling schools that they have to ensure that safety measures are put into place if RAAC is present in any of their buildings. This has led to schools having to restrict their opening. Surveys done last year found no RAAC at Ridgewood so you will be pleased to hear that we are fully open.

Hot weather adjustments

The weather is meant to be very warm this week. Although we want to see students looking smart in their full uniform at the beginning of a school year, it is much too warm for blazers. For this week, students can leave their blazers at home please. Students will need to bring a full water bottle each day.

Start times for all students:

8.35am Year 7 should arrive and go straight to the school hall.

11.20am School starts for all students in Years 8-11. Year 11 should go straight to the hall.

2.55pm Year 7 will be escorted to the gate so they leave ahead of other students for the first three days.

We have lots of information to share with you over the coming weeks as we have changed a number of our systems and processes as part of our work to keep on improving what we offer. With any of these, if you need any further explanation, please just ask. I am hoping that our Ofsted report will be published and shared with you very soon. We are looking forward to this year being another very good year for Ridgewood students and staff.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs Rae Cope Headteacher Ridgewood High School