



RIDGEWOOD  
HIGH SCHOOL

27<sup>th</sup> February 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

### **Rearranged Year 9 Challenge Day**

At Ridgewood, we know how important academic study is when it comes to experiencing success at school. However, we are also aware that school is about far more than this; we want our students to be able to work independently, or as part of a team, and to develop skills of resilience, so they know how to respond to situations that might be unfamiliar to them.

To support this, Year 9 students will have their rearranged Challenge Day on **Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2024**, this was originally due to take place on **Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2023** but was cancelled due to poor weather conditions. Students will take part in an entire day of teambuilding activities, that focus on leadership, collaboration, problem solving and of course having some fun with friends.

#### **On the day of the event**

The day will begin at our usual time of 8.40 am with students being registered in their tutor rooms and be back at school for 3pm. Students will be in large teams of approximately 10 students and with supervision they will find their way to their first challenge. The children will be met by an instructor who will outline the task. Students will be given the time to plan and then execute their ideas to achieve success. Once completed, the group will move on to the next trial.

Students do not need to wear their uniform on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2024. They should wear sensible, practical clothing as, they will be outside for the day. Students can wear their PE kit or if they have walking trousers, walking shoes etc these would also be appropriate. Please keep in mind how variable the weather can be. Students need to have warm layers that they can take off and carry, as well as some form of waterproof jacket. The terrain will be mostly fields and track, so it is likely that it will be wet underfoot in some areas.

Students should bring their school bag or something similar, to enable them to carry their lunch and drinks, as well as any layers they may wish to have in case the weather changes. All students will need to bring a packed lunch and a fillable bottle for the day. Packed lunches will be made available for those students who are entitled to free school meals.

#### **ParentPay and consent**

This event is free of charge, however there will be a consent form on ParentPay that will need to be completed in full by **Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2024**, to enable your child to take part in this event. It is very important that **all** the information requested on the ParentPay questionnaire is completed, including emergency contact details, necessary medical information and **full** doctors phone number.



You have previously received your ParentPay login details but if you have forgotten or mislaid these, you will need to go the ParentPay website ([www.parentpay.com](http://www.parentpay.com)) and click “forgotten password”. You will then be emailed a link to reset your account. Unfortunately, we are unable to do this in school. The following ParentPay link will answer any questions you may have with regard to your online account and making a payment.

Link: <https://www.parentpay.com/parent-account-faqs/>

These activities are important in enriching and extending the school curriculum. They rely largely on the goodwill of the staff who are prepared to organise such events. It is vital therefore that all students who participate support the staff, and each other, by exhibiting sensible behaviour and full co-operation at all times.

In this context we reserve the right to withdraw any student from a visit or residential activity if, in the time leading up to it they:

- are excluded or suspended from school for any reason.
- repeatedly refuse to cooperate or follow the instructions of staff and fail to respond positively to appropriate warnings.
- do not display a positive attitude to attendance.

Ridgewood students are always an absolute delight on these occasions, and we expect that this will continue with this tradition.

If you have any queries, please email me on [rbillingham@ridgewood.dudley.sch.uk](mailto:rbillingham@ridgewood.dudley.sch.uk). Thank you in anticipation of your support.

Yours faithfully,



**Miss R Billingham**  
Head of Year 9  
Ridgewood High School