

RIPLEY ST THOMAS

CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMY

ripleystthomas.com
Ashton Road Lancaster LA1 4RS



01524 64496
admin@ripley.lancs.sch.uk

8 October 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

COVID update

I am pleased to report that COVID cases have dropped significantly during the past two weeks and we are now well below the threshold for extra contingency measures in school. This means that, from Monday, there will no longer be the expectation to wear face coverings in communal areas and we will be returning to assemblies and worships in person.

Standards

At Ripley, we take pride in the fact that we have high standards. Dressing smartly is one part of this. We expect pupils in main school and students in our Sixth Form to look smart and to adhere to our uniform policy and Sixth Form dress code. The vast majority of pupils and students do this and I am very grateful to you as parents for their support.

In the coming weeks, we will be focusing on this to ensure all pupils and students meet our high standards.

Main School - Skirts

I can confirm that the uniform shop has taken delivery of their stock of Ripley school skirts. Skirts must be worn **on or just above the knee**. A number of pupils are choosing to roll their skirt up or are still wearing a skirt which is much shorter than permitted.

Pupils who are found to be rolling their skirt up will be issued with an Academy detention. If your child's school skirt is currently too short, please ensure they are equipped with a new one for their return after the October half term holiday.

Sixth Form Dress Code

The dress code for our Sixth Form students is 'Professional Dress'. Whilst many students are dressed appropriately and look very smart, there are some students who are not arriving dressed for a smart, working environment.

Details of appropriate professional dress can be found on our website: <https://ripleystthomas.com/sixth-form/expectations/>. In particular, students must not wear: trainers, Doc Marten-style boots, hoodies, very short skirts, leggings / jersey-style tight trousers.

Posters of appropriate dress are displayed around the Sixth Form Centre and students are aware of our expectations. Sixth Form registration tutors will be checking adherence to the dress code next week and issuing reminders and sanctions if students continue to dress inappropriately for a smart, professional environment.

Thank you in anticipation of your support with keeping our standards high.

Believe.....

Principal Mrs C Walmsley
Chair of Governors Mrs J Garnett

The Bay Learning Trust. Company Number: 07588464
Registered in England & Wales



Harvest festival

We were pleased to celebrate Harvest this week, with many pupils participating in our service, which was led by Bishop Philip, on Tuesday evening. Thank you for all your generous donations which are going to The Olive Branch, our local foodbank (www.the-olivebranch.org.uk). Thank you also to everyone who attended and we hope you enjoyed being back in the Chapel. Linked to Harvest, our form worship theme this week has been generosity, with Michael, our Chaplain, encouraging us to consider ways beyond just money that we can look to "cheerfully give" (2 Corinthians 9:6-9).

#helloyellow2021

Today we wore yellow to mark this day and to help raise awareness of mental health issues and that all of us will at times suffer from challenges with our mental health. It was great to see lots of bright yellow accessories around the school! We encouraged our young people to speak out if they are struggling and to talk to someone for support if needed.

Parents may be interested in 'Kooth'- this is a free online resource which may be of use to families who are looking for some extra support or advice.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "C Walmsley". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'C' and a long, sweeping tail on the 'y'.

Mrs C Walmsley
Principal