

24th January 2025

Dear Parents/Guardians

It has been another busy week at Ruislip High School. Last night was Year 11 parents' evening, and it was fantastic to see the vast majority of Year 11 students and families in attendance. The evening saw the Year 11 pre-public examination (PPE) results handed out as we believe it is important that students experience the feeling of opening a results envelope in preparation for doing it for real in August. The difference is of course that what the August envelope contains has not yet been written, and it was particularly pleasing to observe the positive collaboration at the school during the parents' evening event. I have no doubt that when school and home work together, students genuinely thrive, and I believe we have that culture here at the school. I would like to thank Mr Sills, Head of Year 11, the staff who organised the event, and the Year 11 students and families for their support.

Attendance

I am delighted that attendance at the school has improved over the first couple of weeks of this half term and I will always advocate the importance of good attendance in supporting students to enjoy and achieve at school. At Ruislip High, we work with a number of external agencies and I recognise that it can sometimes be challenging for adults and children to secure medical appointments. I have been asked to draw parents' attention to 'Pharmacy First,' which is a free NHS service that allows children and adults to get quick access to healthcare advice, as they can walk into a pharmacy and access the service. More information can be found [here](#)

Personal Development events taking place in February

I am delighted to provide parents/guardians with information regarding two events taking place in February: Safer Internet week and LGBTQ+ History month.

At Ruislip High School we not only recognise Safer Internet Day, which is celebrated globally in February each year, but also devote a whole week, from the 10th to 14th February, to acknowledge the importance of staying safe online. In addition to their tutorials, students in Years 7, 8 and 9 will receive a presentation delivered by the Breck Foundation. This organisation was founded in 2014 in response to the tragic loss of Breck Bednar, a 14-year-old boy who was groomed and murdered by someone he met online. This organisation aims to safeguard young people against such incidents.

LGBT+ History Month is an annual event in February, observing lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender history and the history of the gay rights and related civil rights movements. To promote inclusiveness and community cohesion, students will participate in tutorial activities as part of their personal development curriculum.

Should parents/guardians have any further questions regarding LGBTQ+ month or Safer Internet week please do not hesitate to contact Ms Brown, Senior Teacher in charge of Personal Development, via the school email office@ruisliphigh.org.uk.

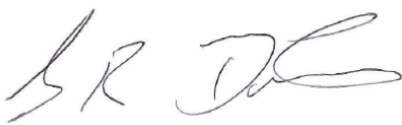
Staying safe on the way to and from school

Ruislip High School staff will always patrol the areas in the immediate vicinity of the school at the start and end of each day. We encourage students to leave the parade of shops at West End Road as promptly as possible and to walk home in a safe and respectful manner. I know a number of our students do catch the local bus services, but I

would again stress that the bus stops on West End Road were not designed for a school of 1,300 students. I would urge students to walk in small groups where possible. I would also encourage students **not** to walk across the park at the rear of the school after dark, as this area has no lighting and should be avoided. We will always work closely with our safer schools police teams here at the school, please click [here](#) for advice on how students can stay safe on their way home.

I would like to wish the whole community an enjoyable and restful weekend.

Yours sincerely



Gareth Davies
Headteacher