

# Riddlesdown Collegiate



2<sup>nd</sup> September 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

## **Start of Term – Welcome Back!**

The start of something new is always filled with excitement, anticipation and perhaps a bit of trepidation and, as we welcome the community back together next week, I know we will all use these feelings to make a great start to the new academic year. I hope families have had an enjoyable summer break and are now ready to take the opportunities that new starts offer. For me, this term marks the start of my leadership at Riddlesdown as the Principal. Some of you will already know what an important place Riddlesdown is for me – it is where I was educated as an 11 – 16-year-old and it is where I have been able to develop and thrive in my leadership of education. I firmly believe in the VALUES and culture of high expectations at Riddlesdown and am committed to securing safety, happiness and success for all our young people.

### *The Year Ahead*

There are three key themes which will inform my leadership over the year ahead. Firstly, **ambition**. I am determined that each student and member of staff reaches their best potential by providing an equitable, academic and far-reaching education. Secondly, **improvement**. A commitment to making continuous improvements every day ensures that we are always striving for success. And thirdly, **people**. To value, understand and support every individual is paramount to achieving a community of confident, caring and resilient individuals.

In this letter, I have set out some updates and reminders, some of which might be familiar to you, to support a smooth and positive start to the year.

### *Operational Changes*

The arrangements for the start of term were outlined in Mr Dey's letter at the end of last term which is linked [here](#) for your convenience. Please note the arrangements in particular for the student's first day of term on **Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> September**. You will have noted the change to the school day, now 8:30am – 3:00pm every day, which will provide a structure to enable us to develop and strengthen our *Reading Programme* and *Personal Development Programme* through the daily tutor provision. As before, the expectation is that students must be in their Tutor Rooms by 8:30am (with a warning bell at 8:25am) to register with their Tutor and prepare for their day of learning ahead. A reminder of the new timetable can be found at the end of this letter.

### *Attendance*

It is the expectation that all students will attend school on time and every day, unless there is a very good reason not to attend (usually, this means significant illness). We recognise, although there are no national measures to manage the spread of COVID19, that this virus will continue to circulate within our community. We would encourage students to practice good hygiene, using the handwashing facilities regularly and coughing or sneezing into tissues. If your child is unable to attend school, please let us know as soon as possible by telephone or email [attendance@riddlesdown.org](mailto:attendance@riddlesdown.org). If your child is absent or late without notification, we will contact you as soon as possible to let you know.

### *Travel to The Collegiate*

Major gas main replacement work has been undertaken over the summer period in the roads surrounding the Collegiate. Although it has progressed well, there may still be sections of road and pavement on the way to the Collegiate where works are being completed. Please ensure your child is cautious when negotiating these works if they are using pavements along Ingleboro Drive and Dalegarth Gardens. Students are strongly encouraged to walk or cycle to and from school, wherever possible. Driving along Honister Heights creates

congestion and can become unsafe for students who are walking. If students are being dropped off or collected by car, it is much better to do so at some distance from the school and ask your child to walk the remainder of the journey – good points to drop off are at the bottom of Mitchley Hill (with students then walking up the White Path) or Kenley Station (with students then walking up the Common). If it is absolutely necessary to drive along the residential roads close to school, please be considerate to our neighbours and avoid blocking driveways or causing unnecessary congestion. Whether on foot or on public transport, students represent the Collegiate at all times; therefore, everyone is expected to demonstrate consideration and impeccable manners at all times.

### *GCSE, A Level & BTEC Results 2022*

For the first time since 2019, students collected GCSE, A Level or BTEC results after a series of public exams. It was wonderful to celebrate individual and collective successes and support students in making their next steps; in fact, the fantastic results achieved by Year 11 students has enabled another record number to enrol in College VI for their sixth form studies. The results represent the school's best ever results from public exams, marking some excellent achievements. At A Level, 35% of all grades were A/A\* and 66% of all grades at B or higher. 20% of our BTEC students achieved Triple Distinction. At GCSE, 70% of students achieved at least a grade 5 in both English and Mathematics; over 1/3 of grades were at grades 9-7 and more than 200 grade 9s were awarded in total. This represents the incredible hard work of our students, the commitment of staff and the quality of our educational provision. I would like to congratulate all students and thank staff and parents for their contributions towards this success.

### *New Staff & Promotions*

We welcome the following new members of staff to the Collegiate this year.

• <b>Mr J A Livesey</b>	KS3 Senior Tutor / Teacher of History	Aquila College
• <b>Mr N L Clement</b>	Teacher of Science / 7NLC	Aquila College
• <b>Ms L Hollands</b>	Learning Support Assistant	Aquila College
• <b>Miss R J Rapley</b>	Teacher of Year 7 Excellence / 7RJR	Orion College
• <b>Dr C M Roberts</b>	Teacher of Classics / 8HCB	Orion College
• <b>Mr Elyas Haynes</b>	Teacher of English & Media	Orion College
• <b>Miss I Loizou</b>	Learning Support Assistant	Orion College
• <b>Miss S Mouette</b>	Learning Support Assistant	Orion College
• <b>Miss L Ruske</b>	Learning Support Assistant	Orion College
• <b>Ms S Bhatti</b>	Student Supervision Assistant	Orion College
• <b>Mrs L B McNally</b>	Teacher of English / 9LBM	Pegasus College
• <b>Miss L Fitzwalter</b>	Teacher of Mathematics	Pegasus College
• <b>Mr W G Grigg</b>	Teacher of Classics / 7WGG	Pegasus College
• <b>Miss S Davis</b>	Learning Support Assistant	Pegasus College
• <b>Miss M Harbour</b>	Learning Support Assistant	Pegasus College
• <b>Miss Maria Auguste</b>	Teacher of English / 10MA	Phoenix College
• <b>Miss R N Macpherson</b>	Teacher of Mathematics / 7RNM	Phoenix College
• <b>Mr H B Watson</b>	Teacher of Science / 7HBW	Phoenix College
• <b>Ms F M Argiolas</b>	Teacher of MFL / 7FMA	Phoenix College
• <b>Mr E Swainson</b>	Director of PE / 9ES	CPA College
• <b>Miss K J Perren</b>	Teacher of Drama / 7KJP	CPA College
• <b>Mr P J Watts</b>	Teacher of PE / 7PJW	CPA College
• <b>Mr M Maynard</b>	Student Supervision Assistant	CPA College
• <b>Miss E H Cathcart</b>	Director of Business Education / 12EHC	College VI
• <b>Mr K N Jones</b>	Curriculum Leader, Business	College VI
• <b>Miss C Kindred</b>	Administrator	SST
• <b>Miss E Wong</b>	Administrator	IMT
• <b>Mr J Papillon</b>	Facilities Assistant	
• <b>Mr L Aggett</b>	Groundsperson	

We also congratulate the following colleagues who have been appointed to promoted posts:

- **Mr J A Vass** has been promoted to the post of Deputy Principal
- **Miss R Madon** has been promoted to the post of Assistant Principal, Head of Phoenix College
- **Miss D E Woolman** has been promoted to the post of Director of Learning, College VI
- **Mrs S C Chapman** has been promoted to the post of Director of Professional Learning
- **Mrs N J Davis** has been promoted to the post of Teaching and Learning Coach alongside her role as Director of Geography
- **Miss S R Castro da Luz** has been promoted to the post of Director of Science
- **Miss J K Baldwin** has been promoted to the post of Director of History
- **Miss F C Precup** has been promoted to the post of Director of MFL
- **Miss M F Oughton** has been promoted to the post of Curriculum Leader, PE
- **Mrs N M Carney** has been promoted to the post of Curriculum Leader, DT
- **Ms B F Soga** has been promoted to the post of Curriculum Leader PHSCE
- **Miss J A Franklin** has been promoted to the post of Curriculum Leader, Geography
- **Miss C Tully** has been promoted to the post of Curriculum Leader, MFL
- **Miss F Z Ullah** has been promoted to the post of Curriculum Leader, History
- **Miss E M Reid** has been promoted to the post of KS3 Senior Tutor, Pegasus College
- **Mr G A Daniels** has been promoted to the post of KS4 Senior Tutor, Aquila College
- **Miss G E Smith** has been promoted to the post of KS3 Senior Tutor, Phoenix College
- **Ms M T Condon** has been promoted to the post of Professional Learning Mentor
- **Mrs T M Chinsman** has been promoted to the post of Professional Learning Mentor
- **Mr J Uzun** has been promoted to the post of Behaviour Support Officer

Also, congratulations to Miss Daly (PE) who gave birth to a beautiful baby boy.

#### *Improvements to our Facilities*

The site team have been working hard over the summer to make improvements to the site. The Main Hall now has a newly laid floor, making the area look very smart. A new student entrance will be ready for Phoenix students from the start of term – students should walk past the main entrance to the Collegiate and enter Phoenix by bearing left at the end of the driveway. New toilets and a new classroom have also been completed in Phoenix College. The Cube has been refurbished with a new roof and wall to ensure it is a dry and comfortable place for students to eat. Further ongoing improvements will ensure it is weatherproofed before the winter months. In addition, new College signs, repairs and decoration have ensured a clean, organised and tidy learning environment will be ready for the return of students. Many thanks to the Facilities team for their efforts.

#### *Communication & Visiting the Site*

Full details of all staff in each of the Colleges can be found on our website, [www.riddlesdown.org](http://www.riddlesdown.org). Our online portal for parents to access information on their children (including reports and attendance) is Talaxy. New log in details will be published for new families in the next couple of weeks. The Student Planner is a useful tool for communication and parents are asked to check and sign this every week, please. Although all tasks will also be uploaded to Google Classroom, students should note 'independent learning' (homework) in their Planner. Parents may also wish to follow us on Twitter @RiddlesdownC for updates and information.

Our calendar of events plans for a busy and full year ahead. Many events will be held onsite, including celebration events, curriculum information evenings and performances. In response to feedback, many parent-teacher consultation evenings will be online. Overwhelmingly, parents and teachers have felt that the online discussions work well and enable flexibility and efficient time use. We have indicated which of these will take place remotely and which we will hold onsite. If parents, carers and other visitors wish to speak with a member of staff, it is best to communicate in the first instance via telephone or email. In person meetings should only take place when an appointment has been made.

### *The Riddlesdown Way*

On the first day of term and beyond, we will take the opportunity to engage with *The Riddlesdown Commitment* and *The Riddlesdown Way* with all students. *The Riddlesdown Commitment* sets out the agreement we make as a community to ensuring that we uphold our values and maintain our culture of high expectations. *The Riddlesdown Way* sets out the ways in which we will operate to secure the highest quality learning for our students. I would be grateful if parents could ensure that students remain familiar with these and to support students to be 'Riddlesdown Ready' as follows:

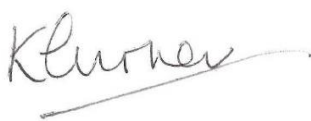
[Uniform](#) – Details are on our website and in the Student Planner. It is crucial that students have the correct uniform and wear it smartly whilst at the Collegiate and on their journeys to and from the Collegiate. Whilst in Riddlesdown uniform, students are representing and promoting the values of our school. We want to maintain our strong reputation in the community and therefore students should demonstrate courteous, considerate and responsible behaviours at all times. As has always been the case, trainers, hoodies and other non-uniform garments are not allowed. Please note that one single pair of small studs may be worn in the lower ear; no other jewellery is permitted. If a student arrives at school with incorrect/incomplete uniform, we will try to assist by reminding students of expectations and lending items where possible. The [College VI Dress Code](#) applies to all students in College VI who must also wear their ID card once it has been issued and use it to "tap in" and "tap out" each day.

*Mobile Phones & Valuables* – Mobile phones are an important tool to enable families to contact and communicate with their son/daughter on their journey to or from school. It is important, however, that when students are on site, mobile phones *must* be switched off and remain out of sight throughout the school day. This measure is to ensure that learning is at the heart of our focus during the school day. Should a parent wish to get an urgent message to their child during the school day, please telephone the Collegiate and we will pass the message on. Similarly, if students are needing to contact parents urgently during the day, they should ask at Student Services. Any mobile phones seen or heard will be confiscated for 5 school days, after which time students can collect from Student Services after school. No other valuable items should be brought to the Collegiate and any items that students do bring remain their responsibility. The Collegiate does not take responsibility for any such items that are lost or damaged.

*"Riddlesdown Ready"* – Students who are ready for lessons and ready to learn will thrive and flourish. This means that they are "Riddlesdown Ready" by arriving each day with the correct equipment (pen, pencil, ruler, rubber, calculator, protractor, pair of compasses, colouring pencils, glue stick all carried in a pencil case) and the necessary books (including Student Planner). Tutors check that all students are "Riddlesdown Ready" every morning during registration. If students do not have what they need, Tutors can assist them by providing equipment temporarily until the student can get their own. In addition, please ensure that your son/daughter's [Parent Pay](#) account is in credit so that they can purchase the refreshments they need to support a successful day. Please email [ParentPay@riddlesdown.org](mailto:ParentPay@riddlesdown.org) should you require assistance.

I am looking forward to an exciting and busy year ahead, getting to know the wonderful young people who fill the Collegiate each day. One of my main aims for the term ahead is to get to know the community of students and staff, visiting lessons and social spaces regularly. My goal is to provide the conditions and the support to enable each and every member of that community to be successful. Although it will not be possible to meet all parents and carers, I hope that I can quickly foster that strong home-school partnership that is a key feature of Riddlesdown Collegiate.

Yours sincerely



Mrs K Turner  
Principal

The Collegiate Day

<b>Aquila</b>	<b>Orion</b>	<b>Pegasus</b>	<b>Phoenix</b>	<b>College VI</b>
AM Registration 08.30 – 08.40	AM Registration 08.30 – 08.40	AM Registration 08.30 – 08.40	AM Registration 08.30 – 08.40	AM Registration 08.30 – 08.40
Period 1 08.40 – 09.30	Period 1 08.40 – 09.30	Period 1 08.40 – 09.30	Period 1 08.40 – 09.30	Period 1 08.40 – 09.30
Period 2 09.30 – 10.20	Period 2 09.30 – 10.20	Period 2 09.30 – 10.20	Period 2 09.30 – 10.20	Period 2 09.30 – 10.20
Break 10.20 – 10.40	Break 10.20 – 10.40	Break 10.20 – 10.40	Break 10.20 – 10.40	Break 10.20 – 10.40
Period 3 10.40 – 11.30	Period 3 10.40 – 11.30	Period 3 10.40 – 11.30	Period 3 10.40 – 11.30	Period 3 10.40 – 11.30
Period 4 11.30 – 12.20	Period 4 11.30 – 12.20	Period 4 11.30 – 12.20	Period 4 11.30 – 12.20	Period 4 11.30 – 12.20
Lunch 12.20 – 13.00	Lunch 12.20 – 13.00	Tutor Period 12.20 – 12.40	Tutor Period 12.20 – 12.40	Tutor Period 12.20 Lunch 12.40
Tutor Period 13.00 – 13.20	Tutor Period 13.00 – 13.20	Lunch 12.40 – 13.20	Lunch 12.40 – 13.20	
Period 5 13.20 – 14.10	Period 5 13.20 – 14.10	Period 5 13.20 – 14.10	Period 5 13.20 – 14.10	Period 5 13.20 – 14.10
Period 6 14.10 – 15.00	Period 6 14.10 – 15.00	Period 6 14.10 – 15.00	Period 6 14.10 – 15.00	Period 6 14.10 – 15.00