



4<sup>th</sup> April 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

## **End of Term Updates**

As we reach the end of this term, I want to take a moment to sincerely thank you for your support and engagement which are the foundation of the strong partnerships we have with families. This has been a particularly challenging term following the devastating loss of Jaiden Shehata, and I am deeply grateful for the compassion and strength our community has demonstrated. Work on Jaiden's memorial garden will continue over Easter, and I will share updates when we return. This space will serve as a lasting tribute to his memory, and I appreciate everyone who has contributed to this meaningful project.

At the heart of everything we do lies the Riddlesdown Commitment which is brought to life through the Riddlesdown VALUES. Kindness, respect and tolerance for one another and ambitions that ensure everyone can achieve their very best always comes first, and this is characterised in the first two of the Collegiate VALUES: Value each other and Aim high. Our school VALUES will continue to be the bedrock of our success, guiding us in fostering a supportive, resilient, and inspiring community for both staff and students.

### *Arbor Parental portal and App*

We have now enabled the Arbor App and you should have received an email with instructions to log in. Please also see the attached Arbor parent portal and App leaflet. If you have any questions, please email your child's Tutor in the first instance.

### *Jack Petchey Speak Out Final*

On Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> March, The Collegiate hosted the Regional Final of the Jack Petchey Speak Out Challenge. This competition contained 14 inspirational students from across the borough and Nevan Malik 10EJF was announced as the winner. A huge congratulations to Nevan Malik and Mia Dawson for their outstanding performances with Nevan securing first place with a phenomenal speech about racism—an incredible achievement! His speech on how the racism he faced when he was in primary school has given him the determination to not let himself be defined by the actions of others was an inspiration to those in attendance.

### *Careers*

Last week, BAE Systems in partnership with the RAF and the Royal Navy offered a fascinating interactive assembly to Year 8s on the capabilities of AI in the workplace and how this links to careers in science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM). Fluffy the robotic dog was able to impress the students with some impressive activities and the students were able to compose a music video using a range of AI systems. Feedback from the event illustrated how all pupils had a better understanding of careers in STEM, the skills needed for the workplace and the potential of AI for STEM careers in the future. This week we have also been visited by two alumni who have

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returned to the Collegiate to speak to students in Year 11 and 12 about their apprenticeships at PwC and Network Rail. If you are willing to support our careers education and inspire our students by talking to them about your career then please contact our Career's Leader, Zena Hole, at [zena.hole@riddlesdown.org](mailto:zena.hole@riddlesdown.org).

## *Summer Term*

The Summer Term will begin on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April at 8.30am. Please take the opportunity over Easter to ensure that students are *Riddlesdown Ready* upon their return. This includes ensuring that students have the correct uniform, details of which are on our website [Uniform | Riddlesdown Collegiate](#). A reminder that the only jewellery worn will be a maximum of one small stud in each ear and a watch. Rings, bracelets and other piercings are not permitted. Any jewellery worn beyond what is permitted will be confiscated. Please also note that false nails are not permitted. In addition, please ensure that your child has the equipment they need to be successful: details are on page 10 of the Student Planner. If families require any support with being able to afford uniform or equipment, please contact Mrs Fiona Langan at [fiona.langan@riddlesdown.org](mailto:fiona.langan@riddlesdown.org) who will provide support where possible. If parents find that winter clothing, such as warm coats which are in good condition, are now too small for their child, please do donate these to us as we can offer them to families who need support. In addition, any school uniform, particularly blazers, ties, trousers and skirts, should be donated to school at Reception on the first day of the new term

## *The importance of Excellent Attendance*

Good attendance is vital for academic success, personal growth, and future opportunities. Regular attendance ensures that students stay engaged in their learning, build strong relationships with their peers and teachers, and develop the discipline and responsibility needed for life beyond school. Missing lessons can lead to gaps in knowledge and affect a student's ability to achieve their full potential. Moreover, a strong attendance record reflects commitment and reliability, qualities that are highly valued by employers and higher education institutions. By attending school consistently, students give themselves the best chance to succeed and thrive. At Riddlesdown we celebrate good attendance each week during Friday tutor time and each term in Assemblies. The current Tutor Groups with the highest attendance are below, well done to them all!

Year 7	7IMH
Year 8	8ELC
Year 9	9NCG, 9SEB, 9RXB
Year 10	10JMP
Year 11	11ALH

## *Happiest School in Croydon!*

Finally, Riddlesdown Collegiate has been named the happiest school in Croydon, according to a recent analysis by The Sunday Times, which examined data from Ofsted. This recognition reflects the school's commitment to fostering a positive and inclusive environment for its students and is only possible through the excellent care, support and guidance that all staff provide students with each and every day – thank you. The full article can be found [here](#).



I would like to wish families a restful Easter break, which I hope is filled with opportunities to share time with friends and family, and hopefully some sunshine!

## ***Safeguarding Briefing***

### **Report Remove Tool**

Report Remove is an online tool run by NSPCC Childline and the Internet Watch Foundation for young people in the UK under the age of 18. Its sole purpose is for young people to report explicit images of themselves online and to have these removed. There can be many reasons why there may be indecent images of children and young people online, including blackmail/extortion, images created by others (e.g. using artificial intelligence) and more. Further information about the Report Remove tool can be found [HERE](#). To see the latest findings from International Watch Foundation click [HERE](#).

Yours sincerely

Daniel Osborne  
**Principal**