



27th March 2026

Dear Parent/Carer

End of Spring Term

As we reach the conclusion of the Spring term, I would like to reflect on what has been an exceptionally busy and productive half-term. Our school community has been alive with activity, from the vital conversations held during our recent Parents' Evenings to the rigorous preparations for the Duke of Edinburgh's Award and the inspiring confidence shown by our students in the Jack Petchey 'Speak Out' Challenge. I was also particularly proud to see our Year 7 students out in the local community, demonstrating their civic responsibility through their recent litter-picking initiative. Alongside these events, there has been a tremendous amount of focused work happening in classrooms as we support our students in their final preparations for this summer's examinations.

Looking ahead to the Easter break, we have some truly exciting opportunities departing shortly, including our Football Tour to the Netherlands, the Ski Trip to Italy, and a fascinating Science expedition to CERN in Switzerland. These experiences offer our students unforgettable horizons beyond the classroom, and I very much look forward to sharing the stories of their wonderful adventures with you when we return.

Supporting Exam Success

A sincere thank you to all the families who joined us for our Virtual Year 11 Parents' Evening yesterday. It was excellent to see such a high level of engagement through our online platform; this was vital time spent ensuring that our students and their families have absolute clarity on the essential steps required as we approach this summer's exams. To maintain this positive momentum, all students in Years 10, 11, and 13 have been equipped with the necessary resources for purposeful revision over the Easter break. We ask for your continued support in encouraging your child to engage with these materials at home. To help students stay accountable and focused, teachers have specified exactly which pieces of work will be checked upon our return. Having these clear targets in place will ensure every student feels prepared and confident as we enter the final stretch of the academic year.

Jack Petchey Speak Out Challenge

We are incredibly proud to celebrate the achievements of Harrison Phelps, who represented the Collegiate with distinction at the Croydon Finals this week. Following a brilliant workshop we held our in-school competition to find our school representative. The workshop provided a fantastic platform for our students to develop vital public speaking skills, and we were delighted to announce Harrison as our winner. Harrison put in a fantastic effort on the big stage at the finals this week, delivering his speech with confidence and skill. Please join us in congratulating him on such a brilliant achievement and for representing our school community so well.

Culture Day

Today has been a vibrant and inspiring day as our school community came together for our Culture Day. It was a privilege to see so many students showcasing their heritage through beautiful cultural dress and sharing traditional foods, truly reflecting the rich and diverse community we are so proud of. The atmosphere across the school was fantastic, from the International Menu in the lower school diner, shaped by our Student College Council, to the Sixth Form bake sale and the Culture Day fashion show, where students celebrated their identities with confidence and pride. Most importantly, through your generous £1 donations and the



bake sale, we have raised vital funds for the British Red Cross, supporting their essential humanitarian work both here in the UK and globally. Thank you to all our students and families for making today such a memorable and meaningful conclusion to the term.

National Finals Bound: Year 10 Girls' Football Success

Our Year 10 Girls' Football team delivered a truly commanding performance this week against a formidable Bradfield College side, securing their place in the National Final Four for the second consecutive year. The match was a masterclass in teamwork and clinical finishing. Lydia Sofou opened the scoring by breaking the deadlock, followed by a brilliant strike from Olivia Clitherow to put us 2-0 up at half-time. Eva Nkemena then sealed the victory in the second half, making it 3-0. While the scoreline reflects our attacking flair, the win was built on a superb defensive foundation and a midfield that pressed relentlessly from start to finish. A special mention goes to our 'Player of the Match,' Olivia Garassino, whose composed and solid performance in goal ensured a clean sheet. This exceptional squad continues to develop year on year, and they now reap the well-deserved reward of travelling to Lilleshall National Sports Centre once again to compete against the very best in England. We are incredibly proud of their dedication and look forward to another unforgettable day at the national finals!

Attendance News

As we come to the end of the Spring term we wanted to share with you and recognise the following Tutor Groups for their attendance this term. Well done to the Tutor groups below for having the highest attendance in their Colleges. A special mention to 7RAC and 8RSG in Phoenix and Aquila, for having the highest attendance in the Collegiate.

Aquila Celebrating Attendance – March 2026

<p>Highest Attendance in KS3</p> <p>1. 8RSG 2. 8AAG</p> <p>Still at no.1 from half term 3</p>	<p>Highest Attendance in KS4</p> <p>1. 10SEB 2. 10NCG</p> <p>Still at no.1 from half term 3</p>
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Pegasus Celebrating Attendance – March 2026

<p>Highest Attendance in KS3</p> <p>1. 7OMM 2. 8AJP 3. 7ZHO</p> <p>Still at no.1 from half term 3</p>	<p>Highest Attendance in KS4</p> <p>1. 10MRP 2. 10RXB 3. 10RCS</p> <p>Still at no.1 from half term 3</p> <p>New entry</p>
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Orion Celebrating Attendance – March 2026

<p>Highest Attendance in KS3</p> <p>1. 7LAH 2. 7SAJ</p> <p>Up one place</p>	<p>Highest Attendance in KS4</p> <p>1. 10FCP 2. 10YRW</p> <p>Still at no.1 from half term 3</p>
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Phoenix Celebrating Attendance – March 2026

<p>Highest Attendance in KS3</p> <p>1. 7RAC 2. 7IAH 3. 7JOS</p> <p>Still at no.1 from half term 3</p> <p>New entry</p>	<p>Highest Attendance in KS4</p> <p>1. 11SHY 2. 11KMB 3. 10HJH</p> <p>Still at no.1 from half term 3</p>
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College VI Celebrating Attendance – March 2026

<p>Highest Attendance in Y12</p> <p>1. 12FT 2. 12CYB 3. 12SEJ</p> <p>Up one place</p> <p>New entry</p>	<p>Highest Attendance in Y13</p> <p>1. 13ELT 2. 13NJJ 3. 13MXM</p> <p>Still at no.1 from half term 3</p> <p>New entry</p>
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Riddlesdown Collegiate



Well done to the following Tutor Groups for having the highest attendance in each Year Group.

Below are the end of Spring Term attendance figures by College.

Year 7	7RAC
Year 8	8RSG
Year 9	9LFW
Year 10	10MRP
Year 11	11SHY

Summer Term

Aquila	94.3%
Orion	92.9%
Pegasus	94%
Phoenix	93.2%

The Summer Term will begin on Monday 13th 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](#). In addition, please ensure that your child has the equipment they need to be successful and if families require any support with being able to afford uniform or equipment, please contact Mrs Fiona Langan who has systems in place to support families in need. 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.

Happy Easter

As always, thank you for your continued support and partnership. It has been a joy to see our students flourish over the last term, and I hope the upcoming break provides a wonderful opportunity for you and your families to rest and spend quality time together. Whatever your plans, I wish you all a very happy and peaceful Easter.

Yours faithfully

Mr D Osborne
Principal

Riddlesdown PTA

A huge thank you to everyone who attended our first PTA meeting on 17th March. It was great to see such a fantastic turnout, and it was fantastic to listen to the volume of amazing ideas shared to help support our students and improve our school environment. We warmly invite all parents and staff to join us for our first AGM on 14th April to discuss our exciting plans for the school year and further details about the AGM and the PTA will be sent separately.



Safeguarding Briefing

Staying Safe this Easter 2026

As we approach the Easter holiday period, we are writing to share some important information regarding the safety and wellbeing of your child.

The Easter break offers a valuable opportunity for rest and enjoyment; however, we recognise that for some young people this time can present challenges. We ask that parents and carers remain attentive to their child's wellbeing during the holidays and encourage open conversations at home.

This letter sets out contact details for a range of local and national organisations that are available to provide support across a number of areas, including mental health, emotional wellbeing, domestic abuse, and online safety. We also include guidance on emergency support should an urgent situation arise.

Should you have any concerns about your child that require school involvement, these can be raised with us when we return after the Easter break. In the meantime, we trust that the information provided will be a useful point of reference.

We wish all of our families a safe and enjoyable Easter.

Contact details for organisations that might help your child or another young person

Alcohol & Substance Use

Change Grown Live (CGL) - If you're worried or want information, our confidential services and different types of support are available for young people who live in Croydon or are registered with a Croydon GP. Contact CGL on 0300 123 9288.

Emotional & Mental Health

Kooth – Free online counselling for young people. www.kooth.com

Childline – Counselling for children and young people. 0800 1111

The Mix – Free information and support for under-25s on mental health, relationships, money and more. www.themix.org.uk

Papyrus – Confidential help for young people struggling to cope or considering suicide.
0800 068 4141

Samaritans – Emotional support for anyone in distress. 116 123

Domestic Abuse

Refuge – 24-hour support for women experiencing domestic abuse. 0808 2000 247

Croydon FJS – Family Justice Service 020 8688 0100

Online Safety & Child Protection

CEOP – Report online sexual abuse or grooming. www.ceop.police.uk

NSPCC – If you are worried about a child. 0808 800 5000

Emergency Support

If you or someone else feels unsafe due to their mental health, go to your nearest Accident and Emergency Department where the psychiatric liaison team can help.

If you are concerned about an immediate risk of harm – either to your child or to someone else – phone 999 and ask for an ambulance or the police.



Safeguarding Briefing contd

Mental Health & Support Resources

My self-care plan:

[Anna Freud: A step-by-step guide to help young people create their own self-care plan.](#)

Wellbeing activities:

[being kind to yourself – British Red Cross: Activities to help students look after their own wellbeing.](#)

Self-care resources: [Self-Care Resources For Young People | Anna Freud](#)

Croydon Children's Services

Croydon Children's Services supports families across the borough to create a safe, secure and happy environment for all children. If you have concerns about a child's welfare during the holidays, call the Croydon MASH on 0208 255 2888 (Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm). Out of hours you can call the Emergency Duty Team (EDT) on 0208 726 6400.

NSPCC – is my child ready to be left at home alone?

There is no legal minimum age. Visit the NSPCC website for further advice: [Leaving Your Child Home Alone - Advice | NSPCC](#)

Metropolitan Police – Safety Tips

How to protect yourself from street robbery: [How to protect yourself from street robbery | Metropolitan Police](#)

How to protect your phone: [Protect your phone | Metropolitan Police](#)