

16 September 2026

Dear Parent/ Guardian,

Welcome to Year 9 at River Academy!

I am delighted to write to you as the Head of Year 9 at River Academy. I look forward to working with you this year to support the growth and development of every student. Year 9 is an important stage in a student's educational journey, moving into the final year of Key Stage 3 and prepping for their GCSEs and future pathways.

We are overjoyed with the success the year group had last year, and I am proud to say that they have continued this streak throughout their first few days back. They have returned to school with a great attitude of vim and vigour, purpose and enthusiasm, and ambition and determination. It is essential that students continue to have the encouragement and support of everyone around them as they navigate this exciting transition.

There will be lots of information coming your way about what year 9 options will look like at River Academy soon. Please see below some key dates:

- **Year 9 Parents Welcome – Thursday 24th September at 19:00.** Please register your interest [here](#).
- **Year 9 Parents Evening – Tuesday 19th January.**
- **Year 9 Options Evening – Tuesday 9th February.**

Below lists the names of our Year 9 Pastoral Team. For day-to-day queries, please contact your child's tutor through River@maidenerleghtrust.org. If they are unable to assist you, they will pass your query on to me as their Head of Year.

Head of Year	Mr. Rosser
Thames	Ms. Zamaan
Kennet	Ms. Graham/ Ms. Powell
Pang	Ms. Strong
Loddon	Mr. Fasham
Lambourn	Ms. Ratcliffe
Avon	Mr. Clare

What can you do as a parent/ guardian?

Please support your child's preparation for school by ensuring they have the correct



uniform and tools for learning, arrive on time, and communicate with the school when necessary. You can also support them at home by asking about their day or what they have learned- I am sure they will enjoy sharing their experiences with you.

All students have been provided with their logins and passwords for this year which they have written in their planners. Please ensure your child accesses ClassCharts and their emails daily to stay organised and prepared, checking homework, notices and behaviour points.

We strive for our students to achieve outstanding attendance, ensuring that no learning is lost and that every student can be their best in every lesson, every single day. I ask for your support in helping us reach this goal. Attendance and punctuality are key indicators of success, so please encourage your child to attend school on time each day. Our line up begins at 9:05, so we encourage students to arrive at school no later than 9:00.

What can your child do?

Students should try their very best in every lesson, complete homework to a high standard, wear their uniform with pride, and show that they are proud to be part of River Academy. They will follow the River Way, ensuring they are Ready, Safe and Respectful always.

We want all students to embrace our school values of **Community, Empathy, Respect, Excellence** and **Determination** to become the best version of themselves and give themselves every opportunity to succeed at River Academy.

What we will do?

As a school, we are here to teach, guide, and support your child to achieve the best possible education.

It is important that we work as a team throughout this journey. I look forward to working with you over the next year and ensuring your child succeeds in everything they do at River Academy.

If you have any pastoral questions or concerns, please contact your child's tutor in the first instance, who will be happy to assist. For curriculum-related concerns, please contact your child's subject teacher. You can reach staff via our reception team on River@maidenerleghtrust.org.

We hope to see you on Thursday 24th!

Yours sincerely,



Mr. J. Rosser
Head of Year 9

