



# HIGHDOWN SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM CENTRE

Surley Row • Emmer Green • Reading • RG4 8LR

Tel: 0118 901 5800

Fax: 0118 901 5801

E-mail: [office@highdown.reading.sch.uk](mailto:office@highdown.reading.sch.uk)

[www.highdown.reading.sch.uk](http://www.highdown.reading.sch.uk)

**Headteacher:**

**Rachel Cave BSc. NPQH**

19<sup>th</sup> July 2019

Dear Parents and Carers

We have some academy improvements planned over the summer. A new canopy funded by parent contributions will be available for outdoor seating and dining. Thank you to all for your continued support of this fund and please can I ask that this continues (Gift Aid adding extra value for us) in the next academic year via parentmail. With these works going on, I would like to remind students and families that they should not be on site unless attending Highdown Sport & Leisure.

Our CCTV provision is being updated and extended. This adds to our security and also helps us to tackle any vandalism swiftly. The entrances to student facilities including washbasin areas (only) will be included.

We have researched improved communications with our parent body and are moving to 'Class Charts' in September. This will provide better quality information on students' attitude to learning which will be communicated to parents and students via the app. Please could all parents be ready for this by downloading the Class Charts App via your app store – it is available on both iOS and Android platforms. Information about log in process will be distributed in September.

I have been lobbying hard for extra funding from the EFSA for our boiler. In a recent meeting with the schools minister Nick Gibb, he agreed to take this up for Highdown. Matt Rodda has also been supporting us in seeking funding to enable our facilities to be upgraded for disabled access.

Please take summer holidays to ensure all uniform is in place and note that non-Highdown sweatshirts are not part of the uniform and will be confiscated.

We were supported by our community Police colleagues on Wednesday with detectors. This is part of an authority wide programme to educate young people about personal safety and about what is not legal to carry. We will continue to work on such programmes to support community safety. Highdowners were fabulous and cooperative and we received a clean bill of health.

On final celebration assemblies on Friday we will be celebrating the successes of Highdowners this year and looking forward to a great September 2019. Looking forward to seeing year 7 and year 12 back on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September and all students on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> September.

Have a lovely summer break

Ms R E Cave, Headteacher

