



Ramsey Grammar School

Welcome from the Headteacher



It is my pleasure to welcome you to Ramsey Grammar School, a very special school serving the beautiful north of the island, where every student is valued and treated as an individual. We are a supportive, vibrant and welcoming community school where we value respect, responsibility, trustworthiness, community, kindness and fairness. Central to our working values and ethos is the success and happiness of every student.

We aspire for academic excellence for all our students. We are passionate about our young people achieving the highest standards possible and support all of our students to reach their full potential. We have a dedicated team of brilliant teaching staff who are committed to providing excellent learning experiences where talents and abilities are nurtured and where our young people can discover their passions. We also place great value in providing enriching and varied opportunities for students to develop through involvement in sport, the Arts, educational visits and charity work. We are committed to providing our students with experiences and opportunities that will support them to find their future pathways and strive to be the best they can be.

We pride ourselves on ensuring that every student, and every family, are made to feel welcome into the school community. Pastoral care is of the utmost importance to us. We have an excellent team of staff focused on the wellbeing, care and support of our students. Ramsey Grammar School has been recognised as a centre of excellence for wellbeing on the Isle of Man. It is a place where happiness and contentment are fostered alongside resilience and determination; where students are supported and challenged in equal measure.

We aim to ensure that our students develop into happy, ambitious and well-rounded young people. Equipping our students with the confidence, skills and knowledge for the future is embedded in all that we do.

I look forward to welcoming you to our wonderful school.

Sarah Findlater
Headteacher

Vision Statement

Ramsey Grammar School aims to deliver 'Excellence for All', founded on the values expressed in our 'Way of Being' statement. We strive to provide a secure, happy and friendly environment in which students are motivated to develop their full potential to become independent learners. We seek to achieve this through the provision of a broad, balanced, creative and challenging curriculum. We give students opportunities to achieve excellence, and to develop the essential academic, personal and social skills they will need in the future.

Our School Ethos and Values

WAY OF BEING

Respect, Responsibility, Trustworthiness, Community, Kindness, Fairness

Year 7 Welcome

Our Transition staff at Ramsey Grammar look forward to welcoming your child to our school. Preparations are well developed, as a considered and planned transition from Primary to Secondary school is essential in preparing and supporting students for the move into Secondary education. We work closely with parents/carers and with our partner Primary schools to deliver a range of subject specific lessons and activities, and we provide opportunities for all Year 6 students to visit RGS. We aim to create an environment in which students will flourish, by promoting curriculum continuity and progression, and social and emotional well-being. Throughout, we seek to ensure that the transition experience for each child is as smooth as possible.

Should you have any queries about our transition programme please see our school website, or alternatively contact RGSenquiries@sch.im.

Miss W Johnson
Head of Year 7

All About Us

School information

School day

Registration or Assembly time	8.50 am
Lesson 1	9.10 am
Lesson 2	10.00 am
Break	10.50 am
Lesson 3	11.05 am
Lesson 4	11.55 am
Lunchtime	12.45 pm
Registration	1.50 pm
Lesson 5	2.00 pm
Lesson 6	2.50 pm
School day ends	3.40 pm

School Lunches

All students in Years 7 to 10 remain in school at lunchtime, unless they have written permission from parents/carers to go home for lunch. There are three sittings for lunch and each Year Group takes a turn to be on 'first sitting'. The school cafeteria is there to provide students with a nourishing meal with a wide range of healthy foods to choose from in pleasant surroundings. Our cafeteria is cashless, all new students in September will be issued a Smartcard to purchase food at break and lunchtimes, please always ensure Smartcards have credit. This can be done online through ParentPay or by loading cash onto the card at one of the machines in school.

ParentPay

ParentPay is the payment platform which the school uses to help parents pay for their child's lunches and trips. The site allows you to add money to student lunch cards and also track what they are purchasing from the canteen. This means that students are not given the responsibility of bringing cash or cheques into school. You can access the ParentPay site via the school website www.rgs.sch.im or contact the school via RGSenquiries@sch.im. You can log in or create a new account.

If you have any queries about the Smartcards, either before or after you child joins the school, please contact Mr J Kneale, Bursar, on 811100.

Absence and Attendance

Requests to take students out of school during term-time to go on holiday will not be authorised, except in exceptional circumstances. Permission to attend sporting, family or other events should be requested by completing a Leave of Absence form, available from the West Office, so that these can be considered by the Headteacher on an individual basis.

If your child is ill please contact school with the reason and approximately how long they will be absent. You can either email, absence@rgs.sch.im, or telephone 811100 and leave a message on the absence answerphone. This absence should then be followed by **written confirmation** when your child returns to school.

If your child is out of school for part of a day, please complete the absence slip at the back of your child's planner. Students should sign the 'Student Exeat' book at the office on the way out of either building and remember to sign back in when they return to school.



All About Us

If your child is late for any reason, they should sign the 'Late Book' at the office on the way into school, giving the reason for their lateness.

By Bus

Students who travel to and from school by bus require a Go School Card in order to qualify for a 40p fare. These are available from Bus Vannin or can be purchased and topped up online. Students who receive free school meals also require a card, but these will be issued by the Department of Education, Sport and Culture nearer to the start of term or when a student becomes entitled to free meals.

Cards must be produced on each journey and must be in credit, otherwise students will be charged the normal fare. It is also important to look after the cards as Bus Vannin charge for replacements. Full details are available on their website, along with route information. All of our buses are service buses so for up to date information, visit the government website www.gov.im - Bus and Rail - or contact Ramsey Bus Station – 812151.

By Bicycle

A locked bicycle store with limited space is provided in both the West and East Building and all bicycles brought to school must be stored there during the day. To have an allocated space a student should speak to Mrs Corrin. Riding in any part of the school grounds is not allowed. Parents are reminded that Lezayre Road is a busy and dangerous road - therefore, those cycling to school should have passed a Cycling Proficiency Test and should, in the interests of safety, display fluorescent markers on their bicycles and/or clothing, wear a helmet and have lights fitted for dark nights.

By Car

When driving students to and from school, parents/carers are respectfully asked for everyone's safety: to set down and pick up their children in the lay-by in front of the East Building only, whatever the weather; **not to drive into either of the school driveways at any time during the school day**; never to drop a student at the entrance to the West Building, or in the driveway of that building.

Lockers

A limited number of lockers are available for rental by Years 7 students only. These are a secure place to keep students property, and are £5 for the year. Details are on the form which is sent to parents/carers with all admission information.



School Uniform

School uniform consists of:

Main School

- White shirt – with top button
- School tie (available from Top 2 Toe)
- Black blazer with school badge (available from Top2Toe)
- Plain black trousers/plain skirt (Tight lycra/contour skirts are NOT allowed)
- Plain black sensible, flat heel shoes with no obvious logos
- Tights should be neutral or black coloured

Jewellery

Students may wear – a watch, short necklace and gold/silver ear studs – maximum of two in each ear and nowhere else. No other piercings are allowed.

Only students in Year 11 and the Sixth Form are permitted to wear discreet makeup.

Hair styles: Multi-coloured or extreme hair styles will be challenged

Students are encouraged to wear their uniform with pride.

PE and Games Kit

All items are available to purchase from Jac Stores, The Ramsey Warehouse, Parliament Street, Ramsey. Telephone: 813092

Compulsory

Girls' Kit Green collared T-shirt with school logo

Black shorts and/or skirt with school logo

Green & white school PE socks

Astro boots and trainers

Shin pads

One piece swimming costume, swimming hat, goggles and towel

Boys' Kit Green collared T-shirt with school logo (PE)

Black football shorts with school logo (PE)

RGS Rugby shirt (Games)

Black rugby shorts (Games)

Green & white school PE socks

Football boots and trainers

Shin pads

Swimming trunks, goggles and towel

PLEASE NOTE: If your child takes part in Inter School Hockey mouth guards are a compulsory part of the kit. Though not compulsory for Rugby, they are advisable.

Additional

Girls: Black RGS track pants with school logo, Black zip top training top with school logo, RGS black leggings

Boys: Black RGS track pants with school logo, Black zip top training top with school logo



School Uniform

Please note, only the approved RGS additional kit to be worn in lessons. Any other variations will not be accepted. Every item of clothing must be clearly marked with your child's name.

If your child cannot take part in PE/Games lessons, you should send in a note explaining the reason for your child not taking part. They should still bring their kit to lessons and change as normal – they will be expected to take on a different role within the lesson - scorer, timekeeper, coach, umpire, etc., to enable them to remain involved in the lesson.



EXCELLENCE FOR ALL

Our Curriculum

Students will study a range of subjects. There are six lessons a day, 30 x 50 minute lessons per week.

The week is distributed in the following way to achieve a broad, balanced and relevant curriculum:

Subject Area	No of lessons
English	4
Maths	4
Science	3
French/Spanish	3
Design and Technology: Product Design, Food & Nutrition, Textiles.	2
Computing	1
Humanities: Geography, History, RE	5
Creative Arts: Art and Design, Music, Drama, Dance	3
Agriculture	1
PE/Games	3
PGE covers many topics, e.g. health education, citizenship, careers advice, records of achievement, Manx culture and personal development	1

House Points

A House Points based reward system is used to award students House Points for good work, exemplary behaviour, representing the school in sporting and/or arts events, as well as "going the extra mile". Students can 'cash in' these points at various times of the year, trading them in for a variety of different rewards

Extra-curricular activities/clubs

We actively encourage students to take part in extra-curricular activities, either during lunchtimes and/or after school. There are so many exciting clubs students can join which can help them to learn new skills, increase confidence and help make new friends. There are a variety of exciting clubs available, something for everyone.

In Year 7, Form Tutors help new students to find the right club and lists of activities can be found in form rooms, on noticeboards and on the school website. Getting involved in clubs and school life is an excellent way to earn House Points too.



Pastoral Care

Pastoral Structure

We have six balanced tutor groups in each year, and normally students will be in the same tutor group from Y7 to Y11. Year 7 is a 'fixed' year group, in the sense that the Head of Year and the Form Tutors remain with Y7 only. We have a 'through' tutoring system for other years, so when students enter Year 8 they will have a new Form Tutor and Head of Year who will take them through to Y11. The Deputy Head of Year will follow the year group through from Y7 to Y11.

Tutor Groups

In Year 7, each tutor group is based upon forming a diverse mix of students, so that each group has a balanced spread of ability, gender, personalities, sporting attributes and musical interests, and are drawn from different Primary schools. During the transition period there is close consultation with the Primary school class teachers to inform this process. Learning is key to our decision making; a secondary consideration will be social groupings where possible, taking particular account of students who work well together. Friendships readily change when students from different schools meet and these friendships will continue to change as they move through the school. Students are encouraged to meet old friends and to make new ones during social times, and to take a positive approach to their Secondary transition as it is a fresh start for all.

Form Tutor

Form Tutors are amongst the most important teachers in a student's life at Ramsey Grammar School. A Form Tutor is the person students will meet each day at morning and afternoon registrations. They will be able to answer any questions and help students to settle in. Form Tutors get to know students well and will help them to achieve their best and will always be there to help if they have any problems. Each Form Group has the initials of the Form Tutor and a letter as its name, for example, 7ASH. Students will find out what form group they are placed in during our Welcome Days in July. Form tutors are the first point of contact for parents/carers.

Houses

The first letter is the House to which the tutor group belongs. This is used when House Points are awarded and for inter-House activities such as quizzes, Sports Day and the swimming gala. Each House also has its own colour and during the first term students will be given a House t-shirt, which they will be able to wear for House activities.

House	Form
Ayre	7A
Barrule	7B
Cushag	7C
Raven	7R
Snaefell	7S
Vollan	7V

Head of Year 7 and Transition

Miss Johnson is the Head of Year 7 and the Transition process, and is responsible for the welfare of staff and all students in Year 7. She may be contacted through the School Office by parents/carers should it be necessary. Mrs Henery is the Year 6/Y7 transition liaison teacher.



Student Support

Student Services and Support

At RGS, support comes from a range of resources. We have a purpose built Student Services and Support Area (SS&S), providing specialist intervention and a cohesive approach to supporting all of our young people within School.

We work successfully with a wide range of agencies and we strive to build positive, meaningful and productive relationships with families. SS&S provides an inclusive climate of learning based on the key value of respect within a nurturing and stimulating educational setting. This enables students to receive a support package specialising in a high impact provision linked to their needs and mainstream requirements.

Partnership with families plays a key role in enabling students to achieve their potential. We recognise that parents/carers/families hold key information and have knowledge and experience to contribute to the shared view of a student's needs and the best ways of supporting them.

Our young people at RGS often have a unique knowledge of their own requirements and their views about what sort of support and intervention they would like to help them make the most of their education is shared and discussed.

The aim of our Student Services and Support Area is to ensure that students will have access to a curriculum and resources that will help them to progress at their own pace and level in order to achieve their maximum potential.

Wellbeing at RGS

Wellbeing is very important at RGS and it is important to understand where to access and find help in school. There is always someone in school who is there if your child needs support. The school website gives an overview of support available in school and also agencies you may wish to access.



EXCELLENCE FOR ALL