

September 2023

Dear Parents/Carers

Re: Provision of specialist materials and equipment at Key Stage 3

Across Key Stage 3, pupils will undertake a wide range of designing and making activities in their Resistant Materials lessons. These will include working with tools, machinery and equipment to produce products that pupils will be able to take home, made using timber, plastics and compliant materials. Pupils will follow the process of researching, designing, making and evaluating their own products, growing in confidence and developing their skills as they progress through the Key Stage.

As a department, we purchase many of the materials we use in bulk from wholesale and trade suppliers in order to keep costs down, avoiding the need for parents/carers to buy materials for their children individually, at a greater price. Aprons are also provided for practical activities to protect uniforms from damage. One **voluntary contribution** of £10.00 is requested towards providing all the specialist materials and resources pupils will use throughout the three modules of Resistant Materials they will experience across Key Stage 3 for the products they will bring home.

**Scopay is now the preferred method of payment for all trips, visits and school activities. If you visit [www.scopay.com](http://www.scopay.com) you will see payment details. If you have mislaid your Scopay login details, please call Pupil Services. Should you still wish to pay by cash or cheque (cheques should be made payable to *Rayleigh Schools Trust*) Please visit Pupil Services. If you have any Scopay queries regarding this contribution, please contact Mrs A Twomey ([atwomey@sweynepark.com](mailto:atwomey@sweynepark.com)).**

Whilst in Resistant Materials, pupils will not be requested to provide any resources for themselves from home, as using what is supplied by the department ensures consistency of the materials used and allows for the materials to be prepared in advance by the department technician. This approach facilitates the smooth and efficient running of lessons, saving valuable learning time. Should a pupil wish to enhance the products that they design and make with resources from home, they are more than welcome to bring them in as and when they are needed, but this is not an expectation.

I hope your child enjoys the experiences they will have during their Resistant Materials lessons and that they become more confident in their practical ability as a result.

Yours faithfully



Mrs M Curd  
Head of Resistant Materials