

HEADMASTER'S INTERIM LETTER

28 January 2019



Dear Parent

This is an interim letter to cover two particular matters.

SNOW

High Wycombe and the surrounding area ground to a halt last Tuesday afternoon. May I thank you all for your support. I have had several emails about 'helpful' and 'polite' RGS boys who assisted others during the course of their journeys home and commendations about patience due to longer bus travel. The later start time did ensure that the Estates Team were able to ensure everyone's safety – they did an excellent job.

Just a reminder that my default position is that the school is open. Based, however, on information I have at my disposal, any closure or change of timings will be posted on the County Council [school closure](#) website. There will also be an announcement on the School [website](#). We endeavour to post information by 6.30am.

Please note that there will be no announcements, updates or discussions on the school Twitter account, which is @rgshw. If you see such an announcement, it is one of our tech savvy students 'aving a larf' and should be seen as such.

STELLAR RESULTS FOR RGS 2018

Don't believe what you read in the papers! You may have seen, and possibly been concerned by, the published Progress 8 score and our relative position in the 'league tables'. To clarify:

- Last year's year 11 took IGCSE in English Literature – this did not count in the Progress 8 score. This means that a 'double weighted' qualification taken by 200 boys is missing from the calculation.
- We achieved excellent GCSE results last year with 73% at grades 9-7, the highest of any local boys' grammar school, the best for many years and in the top 50 of the 'raw score' league tables
- If IGCSE had counted, our Progress 8 score would be 1.02. See where that would have put us in the BASS (Boys' Academic Selective Schools) table below. There are 26 schools in this group
- IGCSE is a common qualification favoured by independent schools, but that sector does not need to worry about the state school league tables. We have been phasing out IGCSE and in 2019 all boys will sit conventional, state school GCSE qualifications.
- Much as we would prefer departments to choose the qualifications, which suit their students, it's clear that we want to be in our rightful place in the tables!

BASS TABLE - there are 26 schools in BASS (Boys' Academic Selective Schools)

2018	P8
Queen Elizabeth's Barnet	1.22
Wilson's School	1.03
RGS High Wycombe	1.02*
Reading School	0.98
Tiffin School	0.98
St Olave's Grammar School	0.93

** The RGS score is a calculation, had our students gained the same grades in the GCSE equivalent of the IGCSE*

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