



**Ormiston
Sudbury
Academy**

Ormiston Sudbury Academy
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Principal: Mrs S Morris, BSc Hons, ARCS, MBA

Dear Parents/Carers,

As part of our continuing work as one of the Royal Shakespeare Company's Lead Associate Schools, I am delighted to announce that our students have been invited to take part in the 2026 Regional Playmaking Festival.

This year, we will work collaboratively to rehearse and perform an abridged extract from *Julius Caesar*. Their performance will take place at the Mercury Theatre in Colchester on the evening of **Wednesday 8th July**, as part of the RSC's prestigious Regional Playmaking Festival.

Students will travel from Ormiston Sudbury Academy to the Mercury Theatre by minibus, departing at 10am. The day will be spent rehearsing with RSC practitioners, under Mr Napier's supervision. Students should bring a packed lunch and dinner, or money to purchase food from the Mercury Theatre.

The performance will begin at 7:00pm and is expected to last approximately 1 hour and 30 minutes.

Students will need to bring:

- A packed lunch
- Dinner/snacks for the evening
- A water bottle

They must be collected from the Mercury Theatre at 8:30pm after the performance.

Students do not need to wear school uniform on this day. Further details regarding costume requirements will be shared closer to the performance.

In preparation for the festival, a professional RSC director will also be visiting the school on 10th June to work with the cast on the performance. Please also be aware that students will need to be available for after-school rehearsals in the lead up to the performance. Rehearsal dates and times will be communicated in advance.

To give consent for your child to participate in this exciting project, simply log onto <https://www.ipayimpact.co.uk>. From the Home Page, click on Accounts and select your child's name, followed by the Details button to the right of the Fund Name 'RSC Playmaking festival 2026' complete the details requested and finally, go to the basket. If your child is entitled to a Free School Meal and you would like a packed lunch to be prepared for them to take on the day, please indicate this on the online permission form.

Tickets to attend the production can be purchased via the Colchester Mercury website. <https://www.mercurytheatre.co.uk/event/rsc-regional-playmaking-festival-2025/>

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at the Academy.

Yours sincerely,

Aidan Napier
Drama Department



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