



25th August 2026

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Re: Start of the New Academic Year - September 2026

I hope that you and your family have had a relaxing and enjoyable summer. With the new academic year fast approaching, I am writing to confirm the arrangements for students' return to school.

As last year, the start of term will be staggered:

- Year 7 and Year 11 students will return on Thursday 3 September.
- Year 8, Year 9 and Year 10 students will return on Friday 4 September and should arrive at the usual time of 8.40 am.

School uniform

All students are expected to return wearing the correct full school uniform, including a blazer. There have been no changes to our day-to-day uniform requirements for September 2026.

Please ensure that your child observes the following requirements:

- Shoes must be black and leather or leather-look. Trainers are not permitted.
- Hairstyles and hair colours must be appropriate for school. Extreme styles or colours are not permitted.
- Make-up should be discreet. False nails and coloured nail varnish are not permitted; only clear nail varnish may be worn.
- Piercings must not be visible, with the exception of one small stud earring in each ear.

Our full Uniform Policy is available on the school website and provides further guidance.

Mobile phones and smart devices

You may have seen recent new government guidance reinforcing the expectation that schools establish clear and consistent rules concerning mobile phones and other smart technologies. Ahead of the new term, we would therefore like to draw your attention to an important update to our expectations. Our Mobile Phone Policy, available on the school website, sets out the expectations, procedures and responsibilities for students, staff and parents/guardians. The key change this year is that the policy now applies to all communication devices, including **smartwatches** and any other device capable of:

- sending or receiving messages;
- making or receiving calls; or
- accessing the internet.

This means that students must treat smartwatches in the same way as mobile phones and follow the requirements set out in the policy.

We ask all members of our school community to familiarise themselves with the updated policy and support its consistent implementation. This will help us maintain a safe, respectful and distraction-free learning environment.

Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to welcoming all students back for a positive and successful academic year.

Yours faithfully,



Mr C Wood
Deputy Headteacher