



Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you have had a wonderful and relaxing summer break.

As a reminder, school resumes on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September. Please note the following arrival times:

- **Year 7:** Arrive at the main hall between 8:30 am and 8:40 am.
- **All Other Year Groups:** Arrive via Middle Drive by 9:30 am.
- **Year 11:** Line up on the basketball playground for assembly.
- **Years 8-10:** Go straight to form.

### Uniform Expectations

We expect all pupils to arrive prepared for learning, equipped with their bag, planner, and pencil case, and ready for the first bell at 8:40 am. Our uniform policy is outlined below, and I would like to highlight a few key points:

- **Piercings:** Pupils are allowed to wear one small pair of studs in the earlobe. Multiple ear piercings or nose studs (including plastic ones) are not permitted.
- **Outerwear:** Pupils must wear a coat, not a hoodie or jersey top.
- **Footwear:** Sensible school shoes are required—no boots or trainers.

Any non-uniform items will be confiscated and returned at the end of the day. If you need assistance in purchasing uniform, please reach out to your child's Head of Year, who will be happy to help.

Item	Expectation
Blazer with Smithills Badge on it	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The blazer must be worn at all times. Please note, pupils will be advised when they are permitted to remove blazers outside of the classroom due to weather conditions.</li> </ul>
Grey pleated skirt or trousers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Knee length skirts may be worn</li> <li>• Full length (not ¾ length) trousers must be worn on the waist.</li> <li>• Pupils may wear full length trousers with a pleated skirt (no leggings)</li> </ul>
Black belt	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Only black belts with a small, plain buckle are permitted. Belts must be worn inside belt loops</li> </ul>
White Shirt	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Must be tucked into the skirt or trousers with all buttons done up</li> </ul>
School jumper	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This is an optional item if pupils wish to wear an additional layer to keep warm</li> </ul>
Plain white, grey or black socks/ black or grey tights	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If wearing a skirt, socks must be white, grey or black and knee or ankle length</li> <li>• If wearing trousers, socks must be white, grey or black and ankle length</li> <li>• Trainer socks are not permitted</li> </ul>
Flat black leather shoes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shoes must be plain, smart and business like; they must not look like a trainer or plimsoll</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shoes should not be suede or have any coloured stitching or any embellishments</li> <li>• Boots must not be worn</li> <li>• The school retains the final decision on whether a shoe is in line with the policy</li> </ul>
Hair	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hair must always be kept off the face and not fall below the eyebrows</li> <li>• Hair that falls below the collar should be tied back</li> <li>• For hair that falls below the collar and cannot be tied at the back of the head, a larger headband should be used to keep the hair together</li> <li>• Distinct shape-up/shaping of the hairline is not permitted and there should be no hair markings or shapes cut into the hair</li> <li>• There must be no distinct contrast (including 'step') between the top, the back and the sides of the hair; any short sides and back must be blended gradually into the top of the hair</li> <li>• Hair must be the pupil's natural colour</li> <li>• Eyebrows must not be shaved or have any markings in them</li> <li>• Facial hair must be clean shaved or natural</li> <li>• The school retains the final decision on whether hair, including facial hair, is in line with the policy</li> </ul>
Jewellery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No jewellery is permitted, except for a single/pair of small, plain, round gold or silver stud earrings in the lobe of the ear</li> <li>• Diamante stud earrings are not permitted. No other form of body piercing is allowed A watch may be worn providing its only function/feature is telling the time e.g., no smartwatches, watches with alarms or sound effects, watches with calculators or video/audio recording capability</li> <li>• Jewellery and watches must be removed before all P.E. lessons</li> <li>• Watches need to be removed for all external exams in line with the JCQ guidance</li> </ul>
Head covering	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Faces must always be fully visible; full or partial face coverings are not permitted</li> </ul>

## Mobile Phones

Creating a calm, safe, and distraction-free environment is essential for all pupils to learn and thrive. Mobile phones risk unnecessary distraction, disruption and diversion. To support this, our mobile phone policy remains as follows:

- **Usage:** Mobile phones are not to be turned on or visible during the school day.
- **Silent/Vibrate Mode:** Phones must be completely switched off, not just on silent or vibrate mode.
- **Communication:** Please do not text or call your child during school hours and discourage them from contacting you.
- **If Unwell:** If your child feels unwell during the day, they must inform a teacher and obtain permission to go to First Aid, where the First Aider will contact you directly.
- **Messages:** If you need to get a message to your child, please call the school at 01204 842382.

Any mobile phone seen during the school day will be confiscated and returned after a 15-minute C2 correction at the end of the day. Similarly, earphones or Air Pods should not be visible or in use during school hours, and any seen will be confiscated.

Thank you for your cooperation and support in ensuring a smooth and successful start to the new school year.

Regards



C. Dewse  
Headteacher