



RSA/MEL

27 October 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

End of term update

Apologies for the lengthy letter, but I would like to share with you some key reminders ahead of the new term. I would also like to thank you for your continued support of the school and its policies. We feel a consistent approach is critical to try and achieve for all of our students.

Uniform Expectations

As we reach the end of term, I would like to take the opportunity to revisit the uniform expectations.

Uniform is an important part of a school's identity. It reinforces who we are as a community and helps allow students to feel pride in their school. It also helps prepare students for life after school where many will have to dress smartly for work.

It would be fair to say that, in the last two weeks, we have a number of interpretations of what is and is not acceptable uniform and we believe it is time to clarify our expectations for students and parents.

Our intention of this reminder is to avoid unnecessary confrontations/sanctions on return to school with those who are not dressed in accordance with school uniform policy. Our uniform policy is available on the [website](#) for further reference, but please see the additional guidance below:

Many of our students arrive at school looking incredibly smart and fully equipped ready for learning. Thank you for ensuring this is the case for your child(ren).

As a reminder the following are not permitted in school:

Footwear

- Shoes with rubber toe; pumps; training shoes; canvas, suede or logo styles are not acceptable. Shoes should be black and fully polishable.



Trousers

- Short length trousers, leggings, jeggings, and jeans do not meet our uniform standards.

Make-up

The wearing of make-up is strongly discouraged. Students will be required to remove any excessive make up.

- Fake tan or fake eye lashes are not allowed.
- False nails are not allowed including coloured nail varnish.
- Facial piercings, tongue piercings and other visible piercings are not allowed.

Jewellery

- A single flat, plain ring is allowed – multiple rings are not permitted.
- Nose studs and all other types of facial piercing are not allowed (this includes clear retainers).
- Other items of jewellery are considered health and safety risks and should not be worn, this includes bracelets. **Pandora bracelets** are not appropriate to be worn in school nor do we take responsibility for any items of jewellery that become damaged or lost.

Outdoor clothing

- Hoodies and jackets of a sweatshirt-type material are not permitted.
- Cardigans, sweatshirts, hoodies or denim or leather jackets are not to be worn under or over the blazer.

The school reserves the right to remove any student not correctly attired from lessons. Students will then return to lesson once the uniform concern has been fully resolved.

Support from the school

We can offer support with uniform to families who are experiencing financial hardship, please contact Mr Lewis – Assistant Principal (Behaviour and Attitudes) Nathan.Lewis@hartschool.org.uk by email or telephone 01889 802440.

Our Uniform Providers

- Blueprint Designs
2 Brewery St, Rugeley, WS15 2DY. Tel: 01889 800644
- Uniform Plus
Anson St, Rugeley Town, Rugeley, WS15 2BB Tel: 01889 575515

We look forward to your support in ensuring all students are treated equally and trust the guidance above makes things much clearer for everyone.

Being ready to learn every day, every lesson

Students must bring their own equipment to school each day to ensure they can participate fully in lessons. They will need a pencil case with the following equipment:



- Pens (black, green, and purple)
- Pencil
- Ruler
- Protractor
- Eraser
- Scientific Calculator (Casio FX-83/85 models are recommended)
- Spanish Dictionary for language lessons is recommended
- Additional school equipment, which is useful, includes a geometry set and an English dictionary.
- Pencil cases are available to purchase via ParentPay.

School bag

Students are expected to have a school bag, every day in school. This is required to carry equipment, textbooks, exercise books and other essential items for learning. Drawstring PE bags are available to purchase via ParentPay.

Accessing toilets during the school day

We would like to remind students that they should make use of the toilets before school, during break time, at lunchtime, or after school. This term we have listened to student voice and as a result decided to give permission to students to access the toilets if required during a lesson change over. The purpose of this is to minimise the disruption to their learning and to prevent students from missing valuable curriculum time.

However, students who have toilet pass for medical reasons, or those with genuine exceptional circumstances, will still have access to the facilities during lesson time. We appreciate your support in reinforcing this message with your child.

Key dates for November

- Monday 6 November – INSET (closed to students)
- Tuesday 7 November – School open to all as normal
- Wednesday 8 November – How to revise evening Year 11
- W/C 13 November – Year 13 Mock Exams begin
- Thursday 16 November – Year 13 Parents' Evening
- W/C 20 November – Year 11 Mock Exams begin
- Monday 27 November – Library workshop for parents after school
- Wednesday 29 November – PTFA Christmas Fayre

We are very proud of our students and believe that high standards of uniform, behaviour, being properly equipped and attending school regularly give students the very best chance of learning well and achieving their very best.

Thank you all very much in advance of your continued support and understanding.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Rachael Sandham
Principal