

# Meopham School

A Member of Swale Academies Trust

Headteacher: Mr E Roberts BA Hons. PGCE NPQH



Wrotham Road Meopham Kent DA13 0AH

Tel: 01474 814646

Website: [www.meophamschool.org.uk](http://www.meophamschool.org.uk)

6th September 2024

Dear parents and carers,

I hope this letter finds you well.

It was wonderful to welcome all of our students back to Meopham School this week and to finally meet all of our amazing young people - especially our Year 7 and Year 12 students, who we warmly welcome into our school community. We sincerely hope that this year will be a successful and happy one for all.

As I alluded to in my letter to you all before summer, at Meopham School we are at the beginning of an exciting new journey. We aspire to deliver the very best education for all of our students in order to maximise their potential and set up a successful future for them all. Along with the rest of my colleagues, we have already begun the important work of reviewing all aspects of our school and identifying the priorities for further school improvement.

## **Uniform**

A key aspect of a successful school is maintaining the very highest of standards and expectations for all. This work began this week, and I thank all parents and carers for their support in ensuring that all students' uniform is smart, professional and in line with the school's uniform and presentation policy: [Meopham School - Uniform Policy](#)

Should financial hardship mean that any families require support with uniform, please contact Mr Rigglesworth at [andrew.rigglesworth@swale.at](mailto:andrew.rigglesworth@swale.at) and the school will provide support.

We appreciate that some students have needed to adapt to some of the raised expectations regarding uniform and presentation, but it is a vital step in establishing the high standards you should rightly expect of your children's school. I have worked in many successful schools and one thing they have all shared is a commitment to the highest standards of presentation and uniform. Smartness in appearance leads to a more organised school and ultimately a more conducive learning environment in which your children can thrive.

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For clarity, I have provided two quotes from our uniform policy below:

***'Trainers of any kind are not permitted, this includes Nike black trainers. Any shoes with sports logos on are considered to be trainers.'***

Acceptable	Unacceptable
Subtle application of concealer or foundation to cover blemishes or spots	Fake tan
Natural nails	Any form of fake nails or polish. Ensure nails are returned to natural state following any holidays.
Natural eyelashes	Any form of unnatural eyelashes or mascara.
Natural eyebrows	Eyeliner and eyeshadow.

## **Parent and Carer Consultation Evenings**

Along with the rest of the Senior Leadership Team, we have made the decision to return to face-to-face meetings for our Parent and Carer Consultation Evenings this academic year. The dates for this academic year's Parent and Carer Consultation Evenings are as follows:

- Y11 (first evening): Wednesday 16th October
- Y10: Wednesday 27th November
- Y9: Wednesday 15th January
- Y11: (second evening): Wednesday 29th January
- Y12/Y13: Wednesday 5th February
- Y8: Wednesday 2nd April
- Y7: Wednesday 7th May

We believe it is important that you have the opportunity to meet with your children's teachers in person and we look forward to welcoming you on to the school site. More information for specific year groups will follow.

## **SEND**

A few parents/carers have inquired about exit passes for some pupils with specific Special Educational Needs or Disabilities. I have been informed that these are in the process of being distributed.

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## **Meetings with the Headteacher**

As we continue the extensive review of all elements of school life, we will be looking to hear the views of our parents/carers. In the coming weeks, I will be providing a parent/carer feedback survey to you all, which will follow on from the survey I have currently put out to all staff.

Moreover, should any parent or carer wish to meet with me in person over this academic term, I will be making myself available for appointments to discuss any matters you wish. Should you be interested in this, please could I ask that you complete the survey below, providing us with some of your availability and an overview of the topics you wish to discuss. Once we have your availability, we will then get back in touch with a specific date and time for a meeting of up to 30 minutes.

### [Meopham School - Headteacher Meeting Request Form](#)

As we begin the new academic year, it is wonderful to see how galvanised our students are for the year ahead and how excited our staff are to continue to help them learn and grow. Of course, there is plenty to celebrate at Meopham but also plenty to keep moving forward with as well. Long-term, sustainable improvement takes time, patience and hard work. We've made a great start, and we are really looking forward to the year ahead with you all.

Have a lovely weekend.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'E. Roberts', with a horizontal line underneath.

Ethan Roberts  
Headteacher