

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

24th July 2026

Arrangements for the New Academic Year

Dear parents and carers,

We hope this letter finds you well.

As we approach the end of another successful academic year, we wanted to update you on all the relevant information you and your child will need in preparation for September.

Start of New Term

Tuesday 1st September will be a Staff Development Day. No students will be in school.

On **Wednesday 2nd September**, the school will be open to our new **Year 7** students (who should arrive by **8.40am**) School will end at the normal time of 3.10pm. Our new **Year 12** students will also have their induction on this day. They should arrive at **11.20am** and will finish by about **1.30pm**.

On **Thursday 3rd September**, the term will begin for **all students**, with the school day starting at the normal time of **8.40am**. There will be an extended Tutor Time on this day, until the end of Period 1. School will end at the normal time of 3.10pm.

Timetable

Your child's timetable will be available via the MCAS (My Child at School App) on **Wednesday 26th August**. At this point, you will be able to see your child's tutor group and all of their lessons. **Your child will not require PE kit on their first day of term, even if they have a PE lesson.** Every student will also receive a paper copy of their timetable on their return to school.

*Please note: **from next academic year, the school will operate a two-week timetable.***

Therefore, please ensure your child checks their timetable each evening so they are clear what lessons they have the next day.

All students will be taking exercise books home from next academic year, so it is important they check their timetable carefully each evening and also have a rucksack-style bag to carry books each day.

Communicating with School during the Summer

During the school holidays, it is unlikely that you will receive responses to direct emails to staff, and our Reception email address is not monitored. However, should you have an urgent issue that requires support, you can provide details on this summer communication log: [Meopham School - Contact During Summer Holidays](#). A member of the Senior Leadership Team will monitor this log weekly.

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Please note: if your query is not of an urgent nature, you may not receive a reply until the school term begins in September.

Urgent Help Note: If you are ever concerned your child is in immediate danger of self-harm or a mental health crisis, please contact your GP, call NHS 111 (Option 2 for Mental Health), or go to your nearest A&E department.

Here are several trusted organisations offering direct support, free counselling, and immediate help over the summer months:

1. [Elliott Holmes Memorial Fund](#) (EHMF)
2. [YoungMinds](#)
3. [Kooth](#)
4. Shout (24/7 Crisis Support) - Text SHOUT to 85258 anytime.
5. [Papyrus](#) (HOPELINE247)

School Calendar

The school term dates and the parent/carer calendar for 2026-2027 can be found here: [Term Dates and Parent/Carer Calendar 2026-2027](#)

Uniform

We believe that high standards of uniform and presentation play a key role in setting our students up for long-term success. Dressing smartly isn't simply about following rules; it develops pride, self-respect, and a professional mindset - attributes that will serve our young people brilliantly in interviews, workplaces, and adult life.

Just as importantly, our uniform reinforces our shared identity and ensures that every child belongs to the Meopham School community on equal footing. Thank you for your continued partnership in helping our students arrive each day ready to learn and proud to represent their school.

We know that getting ready for a new school year can be a busy time. **If any family requires discreet support with uniform items or guidance ahead of September, please do reach out to Ms Trueman via the Inclusion Contact Form, found here:**
<https://sites.google.com/swale.at/msscoms/home>

As a reminder, please ensure your child is wearing the correct uniform for our return in September. To maintain our high standards of uniform we do regular checks on our front gate, during tutor periods and for every lesson at our thresholds. Please refer to the labelled uniform diagram which clearly shows our expectations.

- Shirts must be worn with the **Meopham School tie (black and gold)** and the top button done up.
- School shoes must be **non-sports brands** and **plain black**. No trainers, boots or shoes with sports logos are permitted.
- School socks must be **plain, black and ankle-length**. There should be no sports brands, frills, bows or knee-high socks.

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- Skirts must be approaching the knee, and **must not be rolled at the waist**. We reserve the right to ask students to wear trousers where skirts are persistently worn at a length not approaching the knee.
- All students must have a **school bag (i.e. rucksack style)** in which to carry the essential equipment they require for their lessons - this must be a **plain black school bag** (handbags are not school bags). **One of our parents in our school community works for a brand that offers an excellent rucksack that is perfect for September:** <https://ozschoolwear.co.uk/product/stealth-backpack/>
- As a minimum, **students will require the following equipment:** black or blue writing pens, a green pen, a ruler, a rubber, a scientific calculator, a pencil and a black dry-wipe board marker.
- Students may wear a **small single plain gold or silver earring** in each ear-lobe.
- Unnatural hair colours, false nails/lashes, jewelry and other piercings are not considered acceptable uniform. **Please ensure your child does not have any of these when they return to school in September.**
- A reminder that **phones, airpods, earbuds and other electronic devices such as ipads and smartwatches are banned in all secondary schools**. We operate a not seen, not heard, not taken policy.

There is other guidance related to uniform and presentation contained in the diagrams below, as well as links to uniform suppliers that the school recommends.

If a uniform issue cannot be rectified at the school gate, we will contact parents/carers to ask if they are able to either bring in the correct item of uniform, or are able to take the student from school in order to rectify the issue. The school has a limited supply of freshly laundered uniform items that it can lend to students on a temporary basis. In the event of a uniform issue that cannot be rectified, or where a reasonable solution is refused, students will be asked to work in our Student Support Provision until the issue is resolved.

Please be advised that, as per our recent communications, from September, **any students who arrive at the school gate, to line-ups or to classroom thresholds with incorrect uniform will be issued a C3 detention** (15 minutes at Lunchtime). This consequence can be escalated if there are repeated infringements. All students need to ensure that they have the correct uniform before reaching those thresholds. This is to ensure we maintain high standards of uniform throughout the school day.

If students would prefer, there is the option to enter the school site via a quieter entrance opposite Busy Bees nursery from next academic year.

Please see below details and links for purchasing of new PE kit should you need to.

If you would like to purchase ties and badges directly from school prior to the start of next term, you are welcome to do so on **Tuesday 1st September**.

Thank you for your continued support to ensure all of our students adhere to the highest standards of presentation and contribute towards a mature and professional school environment.

If you have any old or outgrown uniform items, or unwanted school books we would be grateful if these could be donated to the collection box in our Reception.

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Enjoy the break!

A huge thank you to all of our staff for their hard work this year and a massive well done to all of our students for another amazing year - we are so proud of you and we cannot wait to see what 2026-2027 has in store!

Finally, we want to express our appreciation and gratitude to all of our parents and carers for your support over the past year. Enjoy your time together as families, and we hope you have a wonderful summer.

We look forward to welcoming you all back soon!

Take care,

Mr Roberts
Headteacher



Uniform Expectations

Not permitted

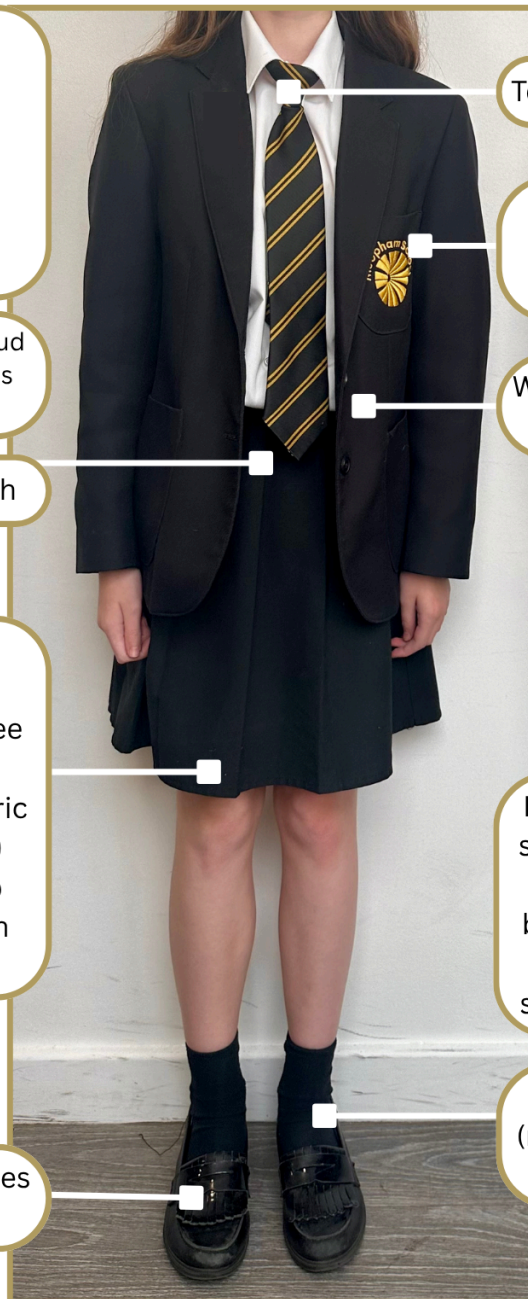
- False eyelashes
- False nails
- Nail polish
- Facial piercings
- Rings
- Bracelets
- Necklaces

One silver or gold stud earring in each ear is permitted

Tie - waist length

Black A-line, pleated skirt approaching knee length
(Not stretch fabric or pencil style)
or trousers (no jeans or fashion trousers)

Black school shoes (not trainers)



Top button done up

Black blazer with Meopham School badge

White collared shirt tucked in



From September, students will need to carry a plain black backpack to carry essential school equipment

Plain black socks (no higher than the ankle) or tights



Uniform Expectations

Not permitted

- False eyelashes
- False nails
- Nail polish
- Facial piercings
- Rings
- Bracelets
- Necklaces

One silver or gold stud earring in each ear is permitted

Tie - waist length

Black School trousers
(no jeans or fashion trousers)

Black school shoes
(not trainers or sports branded)

Top button done up

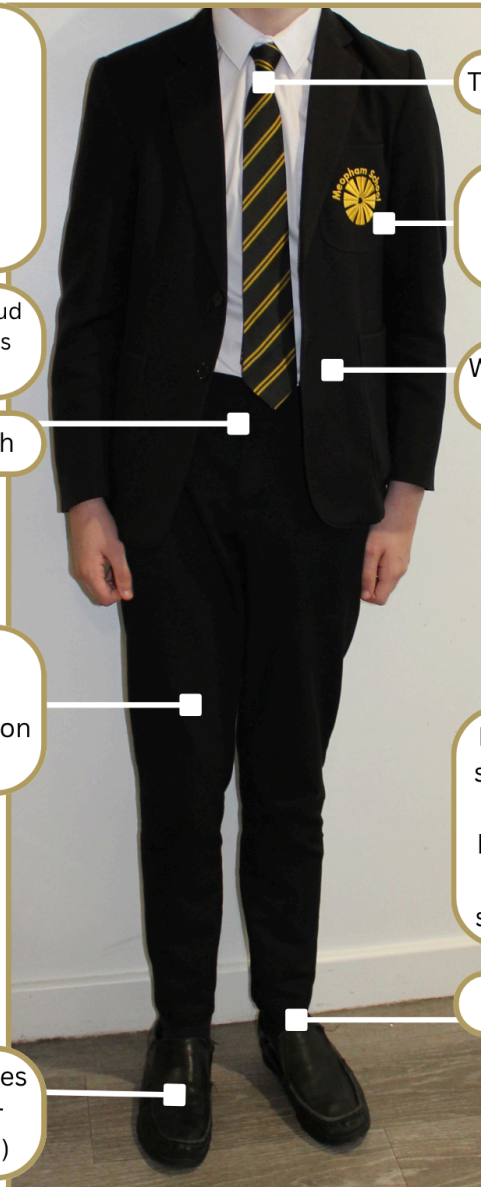
Black blazer with
Meopham School
badge

White collared shirt
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One of our parents in our school community works for a brand that offers an excellent rucksack that is perfect for September:

<https://ozschoolwear.co.uk/product/stealth-backpack/>

Skirt options:

Monkhouse offer 22 inch length skirts in a range of waist sizes. Students with smaller waist sizes may be able to wear a 20 inch length skirt, if it is knee-length:

<https://www.monkhouse.com/banner-designer-pleated-skirt-10000000260bk>

Next: <https://www.next.co.uk/style/su293080/b80770>

Marks and Spencer offer the skirt in a range of sizes. The skirt is an appropriate length and has an adjustable waist. It has been specially designed to support students with sensory issues. It retails between £9-14:

<https://www.marksandspencer.com/girls-adaptive-skirt/p/clp60104235?color=BLACK>

Mandatory PE kit purchases can be made through

<https://www.kitlocker.com/education/school/meopham-school>

- Official school PE T-shirt with the school logo. Must fit appropriately.
- Shorts: official school PE shorts with the school logo. Must fit appropriately.
- Footwear: appropriate sports trainers. Football boots for winter sports (long metal studs are not permitted).

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- Socks: standard socks for indoor sports. Black football socks for football and rugby. Other items: shin pads, gum shields (for year 8-10 students who choose to do contact rugby).

PE Kit (optional) Official items come from Kitlocker online shop. Optional additional items (all items worn in PE must be part of the uniform range):

- Sweatshirt: official school PE 1/4 zip or round neck sweatshirt with the school logo.
- Rain jacket: official school PE rain jacket with the school logo.
- Joggers: official school PE joggers with the school logo.
- Leggings: official school PE leggings with the school logo.
- Grip socks: in dance and gymnastics lessons, students are required to go bare foot or have the option to wear appropriate grip socks for sport/physical activity.
- **Strictly not permitted:** hoodies; branded sportswear or clothing that is not part of our uniform range; clothing of colours other than black; clothing which does not fit appropriately; skorts; winter/school jackets/coats.