

Meopham School

A Member of Swale Academies Trust

Headteacher: Mr G Prebble BEd Joint Honours NPQH
Executive Headteacher: Mr S Cox MA



Wrotham Road Meopham Kent DA13 0AH
Tel: 01474 814646
Website: www.meophamschool.org.uk

REF:GPR/DMQ/HCU

30th August 2023

Dear Parents / Carers,

I hope you have had a good summer. We are looking forward to welcoming our students back for the next stage of their academic journey.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Year 11 and Year 13 students on their recent exam results. It was a pleasure to see them collect their results and to hear them talk about their future plans. They should be very proud of their achievements.

Reminder about the return to school on the 4th / 5th September

The new school year begins on Monday, 4th September for Years 7, 11 and 13. Year 12 students will also be in school on the 4th for their Induction Day.

All other year groups will be in school from Tuesday, 5th September.

Students and parents / carers will need to check their MCAS app. to see where they need to go for their Period 1 tutor session. You may need to ensure the dates are 'rolled forward' to the 1st September, to see the details of the new term timetable.

Please note that if you are unable to find the information on the app. staff will be available on the morning of both the 4th and 5th to direct any students to the correct location.

Uniform expectations

You will have seen the letter sent home by Mrs Curtis regarding some of the changes to our school uniform from September. These were designed to allow for cheaper, more generic items to be purchased.

We would advise you to check the uniform page on the school website before you purchase any items of uniform to ensure that they are compliant with the school's uniform policy. We want our students to look smart and be ready to learn.

Can I therefore take this opportunity to remind students that any false nails, nail-varnish, jewellery, false eye-lashes and non-natural hair colours should be removed before we return to school in September; also

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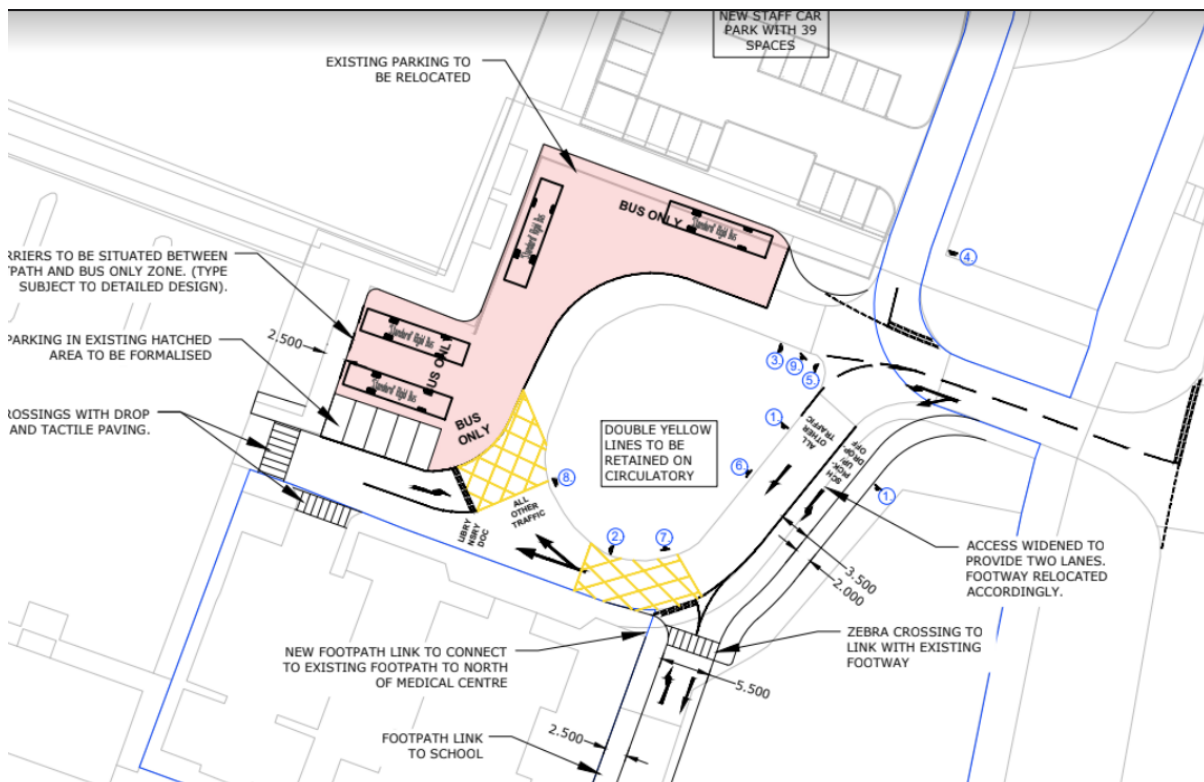
that jersey-style skirts made from stretchy-fabric are not permitted, and black trainers are not acceptable as an alternative to school shoes. A trainer is defined by the sole and material it is made from. School shoes must be made from leather or vegan alternatives.

New build update and car-parking facilities

I am pleased to report that the new-build has moved at a fast pace over the summer and the outline shell of the building is now almost complete. The new car-park area will be open from the 1st September and we have attached a schematic of the new layout below.

Please note that the school site is often very busy in the first few weeks of the new term and we would strongly encourage parents / carers to drop-off and pick up from outside of the school grounds to avoid the congestion.

Parents / carers who do choose to come onto site will no longer be able to park in the current waiting areas without blocking road access. You will need to use the new car-park facilities which can be accessed by turning left upon entering the turning-circle area. Parents / carers should not use the main entrance driveway unless they are dropping off a student with mobility issues. For student safety, cars will not be permitted to turn right into the main entrance driveway, and will instead be directed around the turning circle.



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New Communication protocols

Some parents / carers have given feedback around communication with the school and have cited difficulties relating to the phone systems and email contact.

We understand the importance of effective communication with our parents / carers if we are to foster effective home-school partnerships. We have therefore conducted a full review of our school communication systems and identified areas for improvement.

We will be sharing some of the changes we will be making in the coming weeks. However, I wanted to take this opportunity to reassure you that we have listened to your concerns and will be taking appropriate steps to resolve these.

I look forward to seeing our students on the 4th and 5th September and also to working with you all this coming academic year.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Glenn Prebble'.

Glenn Prebble
Headteacher