



23rd February 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

As we navigate the busy school year, we want to take a moment to remind everyone about the importance of adhering to our Behaviour and Uniform policies. While seemingly a small detail, our uniform plays a significant role in shaping our school environment and fostering a sense of community and belonging among students.

Benefits of a Consistent Uniform

- **Creates a Sense of Identity:** Our uniform serves as a visible representation of our school community, fostering pride and unity amongst students. It allows them to feel valued and part of something bigger than themselves.
- **Reduces Distraction:** By minimizing differences in clothing, we aim to create a learning environment where the focus is on academic pursuits and personal development, rather than fashion choices.
- **Promotes Equality:** Wearing the same uniform helps dismantle potential social barriers based on clothing choices, allowing students to interact and learn from each other on an equal footing.
- **Professionalism and Preparation:** Following dress codes is an essential life skill, and our uniform policy prepares students for future environments where professional dress is expected.

Ensuring Uniform Adherence

We appreciate your ongoing support in ensuring your child arrives at school looking neat and tidy, adhering to the outlined uniform guidelines including the wearing of the school tie. We understand that occasional lapses occur, and we kindly request your cooperation in addressing them promptly.

Mobile Phone Use

As a reminder, mobile phones are strictly prohibited on school grounds during school hours, including breaks and lunchtime. This policy applies to all students and helps us foster a focused learning environment free from distractions. Phones which are seen or heard will be confiscated and held securely until parents are able to collect these. Please discuss this policy with your child and ensure they understand the importance of adhering to it.

Detentions

In addition, we have noticed an increase in poor attendance to detentions. As a part of any schools' policy, sanctions are in place to support misbehaviour. This is clearly outlined in the Home School agreement where support for sanctions is agreed between students, parents and the school.

A member of Swale Academies Trust

Registered Office: Ashdown House, Johnson Road, Sittingbourne, Kent ME10 1JS

Registered in England No. 07344732



Executive Headteacher: Mrs N Hodges BA (Hons) MA
Head of School: Mr L Downey BSc (Hons)



Missed Detention Equals Missed Opportunity

- **Academic Progress:** Skipping detention could result in unfinished tasks, missed learning opportunities, and potential academic setbacks. These missed connections can snowball, impacting future understanding and performance.
- **Understanding Consequences:** Detentions provide a structured environment for reflection and understanding the impact of their actions. Avoiding this process hinders their ability to learn from mistakes and make positive changes.
- **Respecting Authority:** Attending detention demonstrates respect for school rules. Missing it undermines these principles and potentially leads to further behavioural issues.

Supporting Your Child Through Detention

- **Open Communication:** Discuss the reason for the detention and the importance of attending. Encourage honest reflection and a commitment to learning from the experience.
- **Schedule Adjustments:** Work with your child to ensure any conflicting activities are rescheduled or missed so they can attend the detention on time.
- **Positive Reinforcement:** Focus on the potential for growth and learning the detention offers. Highlight the opportunity to address the issue and get back on track for success.

Addressing Concerns

We understand that extenuating circumstances may occasionally prevent detention attendance. If this is the case, please contact us immediately to discuss alternative solutions. In all other situations, attendance is mandatory. Non-attendance will result in a further, escalated sanction.

Key Reminders

- Please refer to the school website for detailed information on the expected uniform components, including appropriate footwear. No jewellery is allowed and will be confiscated from students.
- If you encounter any challenges in acquiring or maintaining the required uniform, please reach out your child's SSM.
- By working collaboratively, we can ensure our school environment promotes learning, inclusivity, and a strong sense of community. Thank you for your continued support in upholding our behaviour and uniform policies and contributing to a positive learning experience for all students.

Yours sincerely,

Ms Dawkins

Assistant Head teacher – Culture and Ethos

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