

2nd September 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope that you have enjoyed a restful summer break. I wanted to send a reminder about a few key things to help ensure a smooth and successful return for all students on Friday, 5th September 2025.

Uniform

A consistent uniform helps foster a sense of community and equality among our students, and we appreciate your support in upholding our school's dress code. Please take a moment before the end of the holidays to ensure your child has all the necessary items for September.

A full list of our uniform requirements can be found on our school website [Uniform Policy](#) Key changes for September 2025, which have previously been communicated include:

* PE Kit:

We have a new PE kit from September 2025 but the only compulsory item is the logo PE t-shirt (previously the PE polo-shirt). There are additional items that can be purchased such as shorts, mid-layers and rain jackets which have the Downlands logo, but they are not compulsory. To ease the expense, Years 8/9/10/11 will be able to wear the old style PE kit items, for example handed down from a sibling. The new Year 7 will need to have the new style kit.

- GSCE dance or PE tops may be worn but not a top from a trip e.g., South Africa, as these are not part of our uniform.
- We will be happy to collect old uniform and use it as part of our spares for students.
- Students can choose to wear one of the following in their PE lesson: black shorts (not cycle shorts, skorts or Nike pro style), black sports leggings or black tracksuit bottoms. The item of clothing that they choose to wear must be plain black with the exception of small logos
- Students should wear white sport socks or long black/red football socks.
- Students must have a change of footwear from their school shoes and these should be non-marking trainers.
- A warmer under layer is permitted in the winter months. Typically, this is a base layer (requested to not be brightly coloured) and the main specification is that this is worn under the Downlands PE polo shirt/t-shirt.

* **Year 10:** a **white** shirt (or blouse with skirt uniform), navy blue, V neck with school logo, blue skirt or grey or black trousers with blue school tie for trouser uniform. A white polo shirt with the school logo is allowed in the summer term only.

* **Year 11:** A **blue** shirt (or blouse with skirt uniform), navy blue, V neck with school logo, blue skirt or grey or black trousers with blue school tie for trouser uniform.

The difference in shirt colour for Year 10 and Year 11 was requested by our prefect teams so they can distinguish between year groups as Year 11 are allowed in the canteen first.

Equipment

In addition to uniform, please help your child prepare by ensuring they have all the essential equipment for learning. Pupils should use an appropriately sized bag to carry their required equipment– this must be big enough to put a PE kit in too. Form tutors do regular checks on basic equipment.



Basic equipment means: Pencil case, at least two black ballpoint pens, a pencil, a ruler, a rubber, mini whiteboard, whiteboard pen, a DEAR time book (Y7-9) for Drop Everything And Read and a reading book for (Y10-11)

Other items based on their timetable can be found here: [Equipment requirements.doc](#)

Thank you for your continued support as we prepare for a wonderful year ahead. We are eager to see all the amazing things our students will accomplish!

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'J. Chandler'.

Mr J. Chandler – Assistant Headteacher - Behaviour



MUSIC MARK
SCHOOL
2023 - 2024

