



THE STONEHENGE

SCHOOL

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Summer 2025

Headteacher
Mrs C. A. Dean B.A. (Hons), NPQH

Dear Parents/Carers

Re – Return to school

As we approach the end of the summer holidays, the staff at The Stonehenge School look forward to welcoming students back to the 2025/2026 academic year.

A reminder that our new Year 7 will be joining us on Tuesday 2nd September 2025 with all other year groups (years 8-11) joining us on Wednesday 3rd September 2025. The school day runs from 8.30-15.00.

Parent information booklets

We would like to thank all our parents for their continued support. It has been a year where once again external visitors have commented on the good behaviour and manners of our students, and this is a credit to parents supporting the high expectations we have.

In order for the 2025/2026 academic year to get off to a positive start, we have attached an updated version of the parent information booklet for your consideration.

[Parent-Handbook-2025-2026.pdf](#)

Please can you familiarise yourself with its contents and in particular tick the Class Charts box indicating that you have read and are happy to enter into the home/school agreement.

In order for your child to have a successful start in September, key points of interest are detailed below.

Attendance

Good attendance has always been important. New statutory guidance recently came into effect in relation to attendance. Attendance rates in schools are expected to return to pre-pandemic levels with 95% being a minimum expectation. In the coming academic year, we will notify you when your son/daughter drops below 95% attendance. This will be for information only and the school attendance process will only be triggered if your child's attendance continues to decline.

Another change you need to be aware of is the tightening of the rules in terms of taking children out during term time. There are now only very few situations that schools are advised to authorise term time absence. This is explained in more detail in the information booklet on P.13 and 14. Please be advised that penalty notices are now rising to £160 per parent per child. Schools will now only be able to issue 2 penalty notices in a 3-year period with a third offence going straight to court proceedings. It is really important to us that children come to school because they want to. If there are ever any barriers to your child's good attendance, please contact the school so we can work together to resolve these

Mobile Phones

The government expected all schools to become mobile free sites from September 2024. This means that children may not have their phones out whilst on the school site. This includes before and after the school day. Children may have their phones switched off at the bottom of their bags. However, if they are caught with their phones in school, **these will be confiscated for parental collection only**. We have been reminding students of this change in expectation and hope that this will not cause any issues in the coming academic year. Should your child have their phone confiscated, can we please ask you not to contact staff and expect them to breach this policy. All our staff want to work positively with our parents and asking them to breach school policy puts them in a difficult situation.

Uniform

In order for students to start the academic year on a positive note, we would like to ask your support in ensuring your son/daughter returns to school with the correct uniform and equipment. Our uniform policy is available online at [The-Stonehenge-School-Uniform-Policy-2025.pdf](#) and can be found on page 7 of the Parent Booklet. [Parent-Handbook-2025-2026.pdf](#)

Please can we ask you to use the summer period to check skirts and trousers. Skirts should be just above knee length (and not upper thigh length) and trousers should be loose fitting rather than skin-tight. Uniform should be smart and business-like and show a willingness to learn.

We would like to draw your attention to particular sections of the policy that students sometimes forget over the holiday period:

- The School Skirt. This must be the pleated "Davenport" style. It may not be rolled up.
- School trousers must fit properly and not be too tight.
- Only black socks are permitted.
- Girls should wear tights or ankle socks rather than knee high socks.
- Smart school shoes only are permitted. Boots, Trainers, Canvas daps etc. are not allowed.
- Nail varnish, false nails and false eyelashes are not allowed.
- Hair should not be dyed in an unnatural colour, nor bleached.
- Extreme hairstyles are not allowed; this includes tramlines or "cat scratches"
- Jewellery is restricted to one stud ear-ring in the lower ear lobe, a watch and one ring.
- Facial piercings are not allowed and nor are plastic retainers.
- No sports branded items (hoodies/jumpers/socks/shoes).
- Black V neck jumpers may only be worn in cooler weather as well as a blazer, not instead of.

Adjustments to the uniform can only be requested in writing to the Headteacher if relevant to the disability act or an EHCP.

A uniform entitlement of a free blazer, tie and PE top are available for those entitled to Free School Meals, and those who fall under the Ever6 category.

We would like to thank the overwhelming majority of you who send your child to school smartly dressed in full uniform every day and thereby supporting the school ethos. Students will return to school to an extended tutor period where the school ethos will be explored. **Any student not in correct uniform will be sent home to change and will not be permitted to access lessons until the issue is rectified.** We very much hope that advance notice will mean this situation does not arise.

PE kit

Please ensure your child brings PE Kit to school on the days that they have PE. This consists of:

- Performance PE top branded with The Stonehenge School logo.
- 1 plain black item from the selection of shorts (mid-thigh length ONLY) or skort or black leggings, with a choice of plain or The Stonehenge School brand.
- 1 Pair of plain black socks and Sports Trainers.

Leggings may be worn on their own if they are of a heavy weight (denier) and are fully opaque, and do not have mesh or see-through panels. When purchasing items please ensure that the item is suitable for the activity. The shorts, skort or leggings must not be sports-branded e.g. Nike, Adidas etc. Shorts may be fitted or loose-fitted, but must be at mid-thigh length; if the fitted style is preferred, they must be of the activewear variety.

Designer branded sportswear is not part of the Stonehenge School PE Kit.

Equipment

In addition to basic school equipment such as a pen, pencil, rubber and ruler, a pencil case and suitable schoolbag, students at The Stonehenge School are also expected to bring these items daily:

- A Reading Book.
- Their Study Journal if in Years 7, 8, 9 and 10.
- A Calculator if in Years 9-11.
- A Water Bottle.
- If possible, a Green Pen for correcting and improving work.
- Safe school scissors, glue and colouring pencils are desirable.

One aspect that we would like to draw your attention to is the necessity to bring a school bag to school. Students cannot possibly carry the daily required equipment in their blazers, especially with the introduction of study journals. Please can we ask you to provide your son/daughter with a suitably sized bag for upcoming academic year.

School drop off

We know that many families need to collect their children by car and that not all parking problems are caused by our own parents. However, we are asking all members of our community to support us in doing the right thing:

- Only collect by car when absolutely necessary.
- Do not park on grass verges, in disabled bays (unless entitled), yellow boxes, or across driveways.
- Use Tesco and B&M car parks for waiting and collection whenever possible – both are just a short walk from school.
- Be aware of pupils and younger children trying to cross safely.
- Never use the staff car park for pick-up or drop-off.
- Please be considerate of our neighbours' driveways and blocking surrounding roads.

CONTACT DETAILS

Please ensure your current contact details are up to date. We often have incorrect phone numbers simply because parents have not told us they have changed their number. A simple email or **phone** call would be much appreciated to let us know things have changed.

Emergency situations can and do happen in schools and we must be able to contact everyone should the need arise.

VISITS TO THE SCHOOL PREMISIES

With over 1100 pupils on roll there are 2000 parents who may need to meet members of staff, for a variety of perfectly legitimate reasons. Most teachers have a teaching commitment for 85% to 90% of the week, Progress Leaders also have a substantial teaching load and members of the senior leadership team, when they are not teaching, are often involved in meetings which are frequently off site. **Parents who wish to meet a member of staff should contact school first to make an appointment.** A parent turning up in school without advance notice is therefore likely to have made a wasted journey. Naturally, in an emergency, we will try to accommodate requests for a meeting but I'm sure you will understand we cannot guarantee this, especially at short notice.

Reception staff are happy to take details and forward on to the relevant member of staff for you. This will stop parents feeling frustrated and will also allow teaching staff to concentrate on teaching their classes. It also means that things are often sorted more efficiently, as we can often undertake some changes, investigate your concern and action things before we get to see you so you are provided with full picture rather than deal with things on the hoof.

Please take the opportunity to talk to our office staff and explain your concern. They can then direct the concern to the most appropriate staff member and make an appointment for you.

All visitors must report to Reception, even those who visit school frequently. Our Reception staff will sign you in and provide you with a visitor's badge which must be worn while you remain on the premises. As a precautionary safeguarding measure, you may also be asked to provide some form of identification. Under no circumstances may parents (or other family members) come onto site and approach members of staff, or pupils, without first making an appointment and reporting to the main Reception.

Any parent concerned about their child should contact us as follows:

Contact your child's Tutor in the first instance for day-to-day issues by email

Contact your child's Progress Leader if you feel the matter at hand is not a routine one or you want to speak to a more senior member of staff

We encourage you to read and understand our Parent Code of Conduct and our Home School Communications Policy- both documents can be found on our website.

BICYCLES AND SCOOTERS

Scooters are **not permitted** in school and will be confiscated for adult collection only.

Bicycles are permitted but

- They must be ridden safely to and from school
- They may not be ridden on the school site
- Many students who cycle to school do not wear a helmet. This is unsafe, particularly in winter when visibility is reduced at the beginning and end of the school day. In the event of a collision a cyclist who is not wearing a helmet risks serious and potentially life changing head injuries. Helmets are therefore mandatory for students bringing bicycles to school
- Bicycles must be roadworthy with working brakes. Unroadworthy bicycles will be confiscated

- In Autumn/winter it can be almost dark early in the morning and the late afternoon. If your son/daughter cycles to school please ensure they fix lights onto their cycle. It is highly advisable to wear some additional reflective (high visibility) clothing as well.
- The school reserves the right to ban students from bringing bicycles to school if they do not comply with these rules. The safety of our students is our primary concern.
- Need to be kept in the bike sheds, not at the front of Reception (which is for staff use only)

We are genuinely grateful to all the support parents and carers give us in helping to ensure that Stonehenge School remains a safe school with smartly dressed, well-organised and resilient students who are ready to fully engage with learning on a daily basis.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs C A Dean

Headteacher