

28 August 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope this letter finds you well and that you have all managed to get some rest with your nearest and dearest this summer.

We've enjoyed the break this end but it has also been a really busy time on site at Wootton. A great deal of work has taken place at the school. We have refurbished lots more toilets so that we have more cubicles than ever before, all looking really beautiful. In particular, we have made sure that there are even more toilets available for the girls. We have refurbished some classrooms as well as new replacement canopies outside for when the weather turns wetter. In the next few weeks our new block will start to be built at the back of school – this is preparation for our new Year 7 and 8 next September. We will keep you updated about that through the year.

Last week saw a hugely successful results day, with really pleasing GCSE outcomes that are a big step up from our previous results. It was so lovely to see so many smiling faces when students picked up their grade sheets. It was also reassuring to see that all the efforts put in last year by everyone – students, staff and families – paid off. We will write to you more about this at the start of term.

I said I would write to you before the new term to support you as you prepare your child for the return to school, so that you have all the information you need in one place:

A staggered start to the year.

Staff return to school on Monday 1 September to ensure we are ready for our students. We will then welcome students over the next few days:

Wednesday 3 September	Year 9 only
Thursday 4 September	Year 9 and 10
Friday 5 September	Year 9 and 10
Monday 8 September	Year 9, 10, 11.

Please remember that our gate closes at 8.25am each day, and all students should be through the gate by then.

Each year group will have an assembly and some reminders about what we want them to do to be successful in their learning.

<u>Uniform and equipment.</u>

Please find the link to our uniform expectations and required equipment: https://www.woottonupper.co.uk/dress-code



We have been really detailed in describing what is expected for each item of uniform. Please support your child by ensuring they have all the correct items.

Year 9: We have been in contact with our uniform supplier, and they assure us that they will continue to fulfil uniform orders. However, if you have ordered uniform and it hasn't been delivered, please don't worry. The supplier has said they will give us a list of names of any orders that have not been delivered, and we will support your child on the first day. No child will be disadvantaged because the uniform stockists do not have the stock.

Year 10 and 11: the school has a store of uniform with the old-style logo. If you are short of an item, please contact us on uniform@wootton.beds.sch.uk telling us what you need and in what size, and we may well be able to sell it to you. Of course, all students can wear our new uniform, and we will end up with all students in the same new style uniform over time.

Our equipment list: details all the equipment needed by all our students. This equipment will be used in all lessons. Please ensure that they have <u>every item</u>, including more than one pen, as they do run out or break. These should all be in a pencil case.

PE lessons on first days

No student will have practical PE on their first day back at school and so will not need their PE kit.

I'd like to finish by thanking everyone in advance for working with us on all this. Last year saw real improvements across the school, and the changes we made were integral in supporting our students do better in so many ways. They were also key to the Year 11s getting such good results in the summer. The routines we have in place, the focus on getting things right, on being on time to lessons, and not tolerating any disruption will continue this year, because we care for your children and because we want them to achieve the best that they can and have the best options available for their future.

We are looking forward to the return of students and having another really successful year.

Kind regards



Carrie McMorn

Head of School