

Edward Peake C of E (VC) Middle School



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Dear Parents / Carers,

Our first half term is almost at an end. It has been wonderful to see our pioneering Year 9 pupils making the most of the opportunities and wide curriculum offering that the school offers. All other year groups have also settled well into the new school year and it is delightful to see them flourishing in lessons.

We were so pleased that so many of you were able to attend our Meet the Tutor evening and hear first-hand how your child has begun the new school year. It is in partnership with our families that we ensure all pupils can be successful so we thank you for your time, commitment and support of your child's education.

Uniform

All pupils are expected to wear their full Edward Peake uniform upon return to school after half term. Uniform is an important part of a school's identity. It reinforces who we are as a community and allows pupils to feel pride in their school. It also ensures pupils are not put under any pressure because of the type of clothes they wear and all are treated equally. It also helps prepare pupils for life after school where many will have to dress smartly for work or wear a set uniform.

There is no change to our uniform, details of which have been shared with parents at the start of the school year and are also available on our school website but we wish to be clear on what is and is not acceptable uniform.

Please take note of the following details:

- Uniform should always be practical and hard wearing and provide children with proper protection from the British weather throughout the year. Pupils should come to school with an appropriate coat particularly in the winter months. Hoodies are not acceptable in place of a coat.
- Skirts must be at least knee-length. Tight fitting and skater skirt styles are not acceptable. Children grow throughout the school year and a skirt that is an appropriate length and fit at the start of the school year may not be so as the school year continues.
- Tights must be plain black or grey. Tights should not be patterned.
- Trousers should be grey, black or dark blue. They should be a tailored fit. Tight-fitting, skinny fit trousers, jogging bottoms, jeans or leggings are not acceptable.
- Shoes should be formal in style, medium cut (meaning below the ankle) and leather or leather like. They should be robust and have appropriate fastening: velcro straps, laces or buckles. Ballerina shoes, trainers (unless triple black), boots or canvas shoes are not acceptable footwear
- Pupils in year 6, 7 and 8 are not permitted to wear makeup.
- Pupils are not allowed to wear nail varnish or false nails.
- Pupils in year 9 must wear their blazers and ties at all times other than at lunchtime. They can ask members of staff within lessons if they can remove their blazer.
- Pupils in year 9 should have their shirts tucked in at all time



- Jewellery is limited to one pair of stud earrings which should be removed before taking part in any PE lessons. Pupils are also permitted to wear one piece of jewellery for religious purposes. These however must be removed during PE lessons and some practical lessons as directed by members of staff.

We need to support you in buying affordable, good quality clothing for school which your children accept they have to wear because the rules are very clear. We want to make it easier for parents and help reduce any issues there may be over what is and is not acceptable uniform.

There are a large number of stores in the local Biggleswade area who stock appropriate uniform and footwear. Many of these stores also provide an online service with next day delivery.

We also have a large supply of year 6 to 8 uniform so if you require any please contact the school office and we can arrange for you to come and collect items you need.

We will regularly check the uniform of all pupils as they enter school. Any pupils not in the correct uniform may be educated away from their peers for the rest of the day. This will continue until the pupil is wearing the correct uniform.

If you wish to discuss the individual needs of your child in regards to uniform, please contact your child's form tutor in the first instance. Please note that adaptations to school uniform will only be possible if there is a medical reason and is supported by medical evidence.

Mobile phones

Pupils may bring a mobile phone into school but these MUST be handed in during registration time for safe keeping. Pupils should turn their phones off on entering the school gates and may not turn them on again until they have left the school grounds. All phones must be clearly labelled or placed in a wallet/envelope with the pupil's full name and class. Phones will be stored securely and can be collected at the end of the day.

Phones cause a distraction to learning and also prevent a safeguarding risk. We would prefer that pupils do not bring phones to school at all but appreciate that some parents and carers would prefer pupils to have a phone for their journey to and from school.

Communication

We use email to communicate regularly with parents, sending letters and newsletters that share important information about what is happening in school. Therefore, it is important that we have up to date email addresses for parents and carers so please keep us informed of any changes to your contact details.

Our Twitter page is constantly being updated, so if you have not already, please join the hundreds who view it daily.

We look forward to welcoming pupils back to school on Monday 4 November 2024.

Yours sincerely



Z J Linington
Headteacher