



1 September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Re: Reminders about the start of term

We are looking forward to welcoming your child back to school this week, with Year 8 to 11 returning on Thursday 3rd September. To ensure a smooth start, here are a few reminders to help them prepare for coming back.

Uniform:

There are no changes to the uniform policy but please remember shoes must be completely black. Any colour of nail polish is permitted but nails are not allowed to be long and must be safe and suitable to take part in all lessons and activities in school e.g. PE, DT. For guidance, this is no more than 0.5cm longer than the finger. Jewellery must be minimal and discreet.

The uniform policy can be found on our website: [Uniform Policy - SVC](#)

Free School Meals:

The way that Free School Meals are awarded has changed with immediate effect and any entitlement prior to this change will no longer be valid. The criteria have been simplified by the DfE and more families should now be eligible.

From September 2026 onwards, to qualify for Free School Meals your household must be receiving Universal Credit to be entitled, regardless of the household income.

In order for Free School Meals to continue or to apply for the first time, families must apply directly to Cambridgeshire County Council via this link:

[Free school meals | Cambridgeshire County Council](#)

We contacted parents and carers during the summer term outlining this change. If eligible families have not yet applied, applications need to be made as soon as possible to ensure Free School Meals are awarded.

Further details are in the attached letter, if you have any questions then please contact Cambridgeshire County Council directly either via ewb.fsm@cambridgeshire.gov.uk or 01223 703200.

Mobile phones:

A reminder that mobile phones are not permitted in school between 8.30am and 3pm. Students who choose to bring them in must put them in a locker during this time. After a successful trial, a letter was sent at the end of last term confirming the expectations in September. All records of mobile phone confiscations will be cleared and all students will start the year fresh.



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For full details about the mobile phone policy and other behavioural expectations in school, please see the behaviour policy on the website: [Behaviour Policy – SVC](#)

Your faithfully,

David Clarke
Principal

Edward Slingsby
Deputy Principal

Julie MacIntyre
Deputy Principal