

7 July 2025

Dear Parent/Carer,

The school year will shortly draw to a close, and the summer holidays are nearly upon us. I have been reflecting on the difficult times of this year, and how resilient and respectful our students have been; plus, the many kind words I have received on the school gate, as the months have passed.

We have also seen many proud moments this year, and it has been a privilege to see our students continue to excel and for so many of them to have graduated through their dedication to the Winterhill Way. I hope you appreciate that, while we acknowledge the past, we must keep moving forward. There is a saying within education: 'if you stand still, you move backwards', and so we must look to the future and next academic year.

On that note, I have been working extensively with my team, and have made a couple of adaptations to our ways of working to support your child at Winterhill, ensuring that they have every opportunity to meet the school's ethos: 'Everyone Succeeds'.

The focus of this letter is regarding the adaptations to the Uniform Policy for September. These can be summarised as follows:

- The **summer uniform** switch has been in place for the last few weeks; this has now been written into the policy. The summer uniform will automatically come into effect in the last half term of the year, after the May half term break.
- Students will be rewarded and sanctioned through the school's points on a weekly basis, (and ultimately the Graduation Process), for coming to school wearing uniform correctly and being **'ready to learn'**. Please note if incorrect uniform is worn, we may contact home for the correct uniform to be brought into school if we are unable to rectify the issue in school.
- The section **'ready to learn'** has been included in the updated uniform policy. 'Ready to Learn' means that students **must bring to school the equipment** listed on page 4 of the policy and an appropriately **sized bag** to school every day. Books / homework booklets are often A4 in size, and so the smaller 'cross-body' bags are **not** suitable for school.

The exact details of the points above can be reviewed in the Uniform policy, on the school website, and attached to this letter.

If you have any comments, then please do not hesitate to contact me at school.

Kind regards



Dr Andrew Reeder
Head of School