Dereham Neatherd High School
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22nd July 2025

Dear Parent/Carer,

This year has been a busy and successful one for everyone here at Neatherd. It was wonderful to see so many of you at our recent Celebration Assemblies. Other highlights this year have included camping trips, foreign trips, Year 10 work experience week, Science Fair, our wonderful Sports Festival, the school productions, IET Challenge STEM event, workshops from Camouflaged Learning, Go Lead sports coaching programme, visits to the local care home….and so many more.

The summer holiday comes as a chance for families and staff to recharge and refresh, and I'd like to take this opportunity to thank you all for supporting the school throughout this year. In addition, here are some reminders and key information ahead of the new academic year in September.

Return to school dates

We look forward to welcoming **Years 7 and 11** back to school on **Wednesday 3rd September.**

Pupils in **Years 8, 9 and 10** will be welcomed back to school on **Thursday 4th September.**

Official School Photographs

All pupils will have their official school photographs taken on their first day back. Sibling/family photographs can be taken before school or at break time on 4th September, in the gym or drama studio.

Uniform

As a school community, we are rightly proud of how smart our pupils look. We do not wish to see any parents out of pocket because they have bought any incorrect items of clothing for their children. Therefore, as you prepare to buy new uniform over the summer holidays, here are some key reminders:

- In September, we will be in our full school uniform – pupils will be expected to wear their blazer, blue shirt and school tie every day.
- Pupils must wear traditional black or brown shoes or boots which can be polished (Sports brand 'shoes' or trainers are not permitted).
- Skirts should not be made from stretchy material, be too tight-fitting (e.g. if the skirt rides up when pupils are walking) or be worn rolled up at the waist. They must be of an appropriate length, close to the knee.
- Pupils are permitted to wear tailored school shorts throughout the year if they wish.
- Pupils are required to wear black or navy socks with no logos.
- Trousers should be full length (touching the top of the shoe) and must not be tight fitting or leggings/jeans.

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- Nose studs and nose rings are not permitted to be worn but we do allow a clear, discreet plastic retainer for nasal piercings.
- Pupils are permitted to wear one stud earring per earlobe. We do not permit any other earrings to be worn in any other place on the ear. We also do not permit pupils to cover these additional piercings with tape. Pupils are required to take all piercings out for PE. **Therefore, if your child is having a piercing over the summer, please ensure it is done in the first week so that on their return this piercing can be removed.**

If you have difficulty with the cost of buying uniform, please contact us at school via office@neatherd.org. We have lots of high-quality, second-hand uniform available and we may be able to support with the cost of buying uniform for some families.

Changes to the removal from lesson process

At Neatherd, we take our commitment to disruption-free learning for every pupil very seriously. From September, we are changing the process if a pupil is removed from a lesson. This is because the number of removals from lessons has significantly reduced, and so we no longer need to provide a separate removal room. Next academic year, if a pupil needs to be removed from a lesson, they will be placed in a 'safety net' classroom. This may not always be a class of the same year group or subject. If a pupil refuses to enter this classroom, or disrupts again, they will be placed in our internal exclusion room.

Finally, I would like to wish you all a restful, happy summer break. We look forward to seeing you all in September.

Yours sincerely,

Ms E Webb
Deputy Headteacher – Pupil Support and Behaviour