Dereham Neatherd High School
Norwich Road, Dereham, Norfolk. NR20 3AX
Headteacher: Jaime Mallett

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neatherd.org

Monday 1st September 2025

Dear Parent/Carer,

Welcome to our new academic year!

We were truly delighted to see so many happy faces on GCSE results day this summer. Our pupils worked hard, with excellent support from their teachers and they deserved every success. They weren't disappointed! Our results were significantly improved and considerably higher than national and Norfolk averages, outperforming local schools and setting up our former Year 11s to go on to the Sixth Form, college and apprenticeship pathways they had chosen. We wish them all good luck and look forward to supporting our new Year 11s as they go into their final GCSE year.

We hope your children are happy to be returning (or starting with us for the first time). A few nerves are to be expected, but if your child is feeling particularly anxious, then please let us know and we can help.

We are looking forward to welcoming **Years 7 and 11** back to school on **Wednesday 3rd September** and pupils in **Years 8, 9 and 10** on **Thursday 4th September.**

All pupils will be with their form tutor for periods 1-3 on each day and lessons will take place periods 4 and 5. Timetables will be given out on their first day in school, this can also be viewed on the MCAS app (information for year 7 parents will be sent out shortly).

Year 8 pupils will need to bring their PE kit on Thursday – no other year groups will need PE kit on Wednesday or Thursday. From Friday onwards, please follow your child's timetable for PE days.

Year 7 pupils will be receiving a Parent Pay activation letter, we use ParentPay for payments of school meals and trips etc. Whilst able to still use the canteen on the first few days of school, if they wish to continue to do so, please set-up your ParentPay account as soon as possible.

Official School Photographs

All pupils will have their official school photographs taken on their first day back. Family photographs can be taken before school or at break time on 4th September, in the gym or drama studio. Please tell your children to go along at this time if you would like a family photograph taken.

Uniform

As a school community, we are rightly proud of how smart our pupils look. Here are some key reminders:

- From 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.

Enrich Learning Trust is a charitable company limited by guarantee,
registered in England and Wales with company number 07725111.
The registered office is at 1 Norwich Business Park, Whiting Road, Norwich, Norfolk, NR4 6DJ.

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- Pupils are permitted to wear tailored school shorts throughout the year if they wish.
- Socks must be black or navy with no logos.
- Trousers should be full length (touching the top of the shoe) and must not be tight fitting or leggings/jeans.
- 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.

If you have difficulty with the cost of buying uniform, please contact us at school. 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.

Equipment

All pupils are required to have the following equipment with them, every day:

Blue or black pens, Green pen, Pencil, Rubber, Ruler, Glue stick, Pencil sharpener

Calculator, Headphones (not wireless), Apron (on DT days)

Compass & protractor (compulsory for pupils in Years 10 and 11)

Please contact us at the school if you have any difficulty with this equipment list and we will do our best to help you.

Attendance and punctuality

We expect pupils to be at school, on time, every day during term time. Every school day really does count. It is important that every pupil feels part of our school community, and that is more challenging if a pupil is not here as often as others. One day off is five hours of missed learning, and a lost opportunity to build on relationships with friends, teachers and other adults in school.

Sometimes pupils might find it difficult to come into school, but that isn't a reason to stay at home. Please let us know as early as possible if things are becoming difficult and we can work together to improve things.

We are looking forward to welcoming your child back later this week and to another positive, successful year ahead.

Yours sincerely,

Ms E Webb
Deputy Headteacher – Pupil Support, Behaviour and Attendance

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