



















Headteacher: John Vennart BSc, PGCE

15<sup>th</sup> December 2023 BCh/KTr

## Dear Parents/Carers

Thank you for your continued support since September, the standards exhibited by the majority of pupils remains high and we wish this to continue into the new year. Pupils continually exhibit the characteristics of The Malling School Way and we will praise them for this in the return to school assemblies in January.

A lot of you will have received a positive letter from Mr Dmytruk regarding your child's excellent attendance and punctuality. A significant proportion of the school population has not had a day off since September and this will have had a positive impact on pupil achievement. Mr Dmytruk and the pastoral teams will continue to work with pupils and families to ensure consistently good attendance, so that your child's full potential can be realised.

An area that is always cited by employers as a vital trait of employees is punctuality. Again, the majority of pupils are on time both to school and to lessons and we will continue to issue sanctions for those pupils who are significantly or persistently late, including extended SLT reflections after school until 5pm. We have met with parents this term and your support has had a significant positive impact- thank you.

To ensure all pupils are ready to learn every day, please ensure your child comes to school every day with the correct equipment. All pupils should bring a writing pen (black or blue ink), a pencil, a green pen and their mini whiteboard and marker (these are provided by the school and the whiteboard pen is replaced when they run out of ink). All equipment should be carried to school in a suitably sized bag. This also means that pupils are able to take work home when required and can also transport their PE uniform and other subject-specific essentials when required.

Where pupils are not coming to school with the correct equipment, tutors will be issuing equipment codes and the pastoral team will be monitoring this, offering support or issuing sanctions where appropriate. This may include supporting pupils with organisational skills and parental meetings to discuss issues and barriers to success.

Uniform standards continue to be high across the school, with almost all pupils attending in the correct uniform every day. Thank you for your support with this, we will be praising pupils in the first week back assemblies in January. Please ensure your child comes to school every day with their blazers and tie (where applicable) and shoes. Pupils will be expected to borrow shoes from the pastoral team if they do not bring their own in. Refusal to change will result in parental contact, the issuing of a sanction and parental meetings for pupils who continually forget shoes or refuse to change. Please refer to our uniform expectations which can be found here.

We understand the importance of mobile phones as a means of staying safe and contactable on the way to and from school. Pupils are excellent at turning these off and putting them away when they arrive, but a very small number of pupils are using them to check their timetable during the school day. We provide paper copies of timetables and will always replace these without sanction, so please encourage your child to make sure their phone stays away during the school day. When phones are seen, these will be confiscated until the end of the day. Likewise, if we see ear pods these will be confiscated until the end of the day, along with the device that they are connected to. If pupils persistently use their phone during the school day, sanctions will be issued and the issue will be discussed with you.

If you have any questions or need support please contact <u>office@themallingschool.kent.sch.uk</u>.

Thank you for your continued and unwavering support. We wish you all an enjoyable Christmas break.

Yours sincerely

Mr B Chidwick Senior Deputy Headteacher













