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THE MALLING SCHOOL

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10th November 2026
DWr/SSn

Dear Parent/Carer,

High Standards of School Uniform and PE Kit

As we move into the autumn and winter months, I would like to take this opportunity to remind parents and carers of the importance of ensuring that students arrive at school appropriately dressed, smartly presented and fully prepared for the school day. At The Malling School, we have high expectations of our students, and maintaining high standards of uniform and appearance is an important part of our whole-school approach to promoting pride, belonging and a positive learning environment.

We ask for your continued support in ensuring that students wear the correct school uniform every day. This includes bringing and wearing their school blazer as part of the expected school uniform, alongside ensuring that they have a suitable, sensible jacket or coat for travelling to and from school and spending time outdoors.

Please be reminded that **hoodies are not permitted as part of school uniform or as an alternative to an appropriate coat or jacket**. We ask that parents and carers familiarise themselves with our full uniform expectations, which can be found in the school uniform policy on our website:
https://www.themallingschool.kent.sch.uk/page/?title=Uniform&pid=48

Alongside our expectations for everyday school uniform, we would also like to remind parents and carers of the importance of ensuring students are appropriately equipped for their PE lessons, particularly as temperatures begin to drop and weather conditions become less predictable.

At The Malling School, we are committed to providing students with a broad and varied PE curriculum, which includes activities taking place both indoors and outdoors throughout the year. Having suitable clothing and footwear is essential to ensure students remain warm, comfortable and able to participate fully in their lessons.

I would also like to remind parents that the only compulsory branded item of PE kit is now **The Malling School PE polo shirt**. All other items of PE clothing can be purchased from any retailer, provided they are navy blue or black in colour, with no obvious or prominent logos.

To help students prepare for the colder months, we encourage parents and carers to provide additional items of PE clothing where possible, including:

- **Warm layers:** Sports jumpers, sweatshirts, zip-up sports tops and base layers.
- **Legwear:** Tracksuit bottoms or suitable sports leggings.
- **Outdoor clothing:** Waterproof sports jackets or coats to provide protection from wind and rain.
- **Cold-weather accessories:** Sensible warm sports hats and sports gloves with grips, where appropriate for the activity.
- **Appropriate footwear:** Suitable sports trainers, alongside any activity-specific footwear required.

Please be aware that all additional clothing must be appropriate for physical activity. Fashion jackets and everyday outerwear, such as parkas or other bulky coats, will not be permitted during PE lessons, as these can restrict movement and may present safety concerns.

We also ask parents to consider that clothing provided for PE will be exposed to the normal physical demands of the activities being taught. For example, contact sports such as rugby may involve pulling, physical contact, mud and general wear and tear. We therefore recommend providing practical, durable sports clothing rather than expensive or delicate items that could become damaged during participation.

Please be reassured that PE teachers will continue to assess weather conditions and make informed decisions about whether it is safe and appropriate for lessons to take place outdoors. However, we do aim to make use of our outdoor facilities wherever conditions allow, and having the correct clothing makes a significant difference to students' comfort and enjoyment.

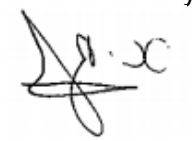
We also ask that students bring suitable trainers to every PE lesson, even when they are scheduled to participate in activities on the school field. Weather conditions may require teachers to adapt or change the planned activity or teaching space at short notice, so having appropriate alternative footwear is essential.

Our intention is not to place unnecessary additional costs on families, but rather to ensure that all students understand and meet our expectations around school uniform and are appropriately equipped for their learning. We recognise the importance of being mindful of the costs associated with school clothing, and our PE kit expectations offer flexibility and affordable options for families.

Ultimately, we want every student to take pride in their appearance, feel part of our school community and arrive each day ready to learn. By working together to maintain high standards of uniform and ensuring students are properly equipped for PE, we can continue to create a positive environment in which all students can thrive.

Thank you for your continued support and cooperation.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs K Davey
Headteacher