

February 2016

Dear Parent/Carer

At Mascalls we are determined to achieve excellence in every dimension of the life and work at the academy. This includes aspiring to the highest possible standard of punctuality and uniform.

Uniform

From the start of this academic year we have made improvements to our uniform and we would like to remind our students and parents/carers of our uniform standards. In the event that a student does not comply with the uniform policy the student will be out of circulation at break and lunchtime or placed in referral and parents will be contacted. To ensure consistency and fairness across the academy there will be no exceptions. Current Year 8 students will be wearing the new school uniform from September 2016, but if parents need to replace uniform before September 2016, please replace it with the new uniform. Stocks of the old uniform are running low and available only at Barsleys in Paddock Wood. Limited second hand uniform is available from Student Services. **Our full uniform list is available on the school website.** Each student must ensure they come to school with the correct equipment including their school planner.

Footwear	No boots or trainers. Black leather shoes – not canvas.
Jewellery	The only items allowed are a watch and one pair of stud earrings – one plain stud in the lobe of each ear (not hoops). Jewellery will be confiscated. No studs or rings in any other part of the body apart from the ear lobe
Blazers	Must be worn around the academy site at all times
Skirts	For Year 10/11 girls skirts should be no more than 4 inches above the knee. Unacceptably altered skirts will need to be replaced. Years 7 and 9 skirts should be knee length.
Make-up	Years 7,8 and 9 no make-up must be worn and must be removed if requested Years 10 and 11 may wear discreet make-up No nail varnish in any year No acrylic nails
In addition – these items should not be worn	Any items other than those specified in the uniform list Dark or black canvas jeans, in place of school trousers Suede, leather, denim, velvet coats Coats with large logos T-shirts under shirts/blouses

Attendance and Punctuality

Our current academy attendance figure remains strong and has continued to increase since last year. We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support in helping us achieve this. We recognise the strong relationship between excellent attendance and punctuality for effective pupil progress and would like to re-iterate the importance of your son/daughter being in school and being punctual to every lesson. Heads of Learning Communities will shortly be informing their community about some of the positive rewards for students with improved or excellent attendance.

If your son/daughter is going to be absent for any unavoidable circumstance, please contact Mrs Hughes our Attendance Manager no later than 9am on the school day. Attendance line: 01892 831477 or email: hughes@mascalls.kent.sch.uk

We are also placing an increased focus on punctuality to school and lessons. Students who are persistently late to lessons will receive a detention (please see below) and parents will receive a text on Thursday afternoon.

30 or more minutes late over a weekly period	30 minute detention Friday after school
60 or more minutes late over a weekly period	60 minute detention Friday after school
More than 60 minutes late	90 minute detention Friday after school

It is important to remind students that they will not be collected for this detention. Failure to attend after school will result in Referral and a detention after school the following week.

New Head of Learning Communities

We have appointed two new Heads of Learning Communities to join our Pastoral Team.

Mr Anthony Farr - Lead Head of Learning Communities & Head of Riley Learning Community	farr@mascalls.kent.sch.uk
Miss Anna Mohamed - Head of Foster Learning Community	mohamed@mascalls.kent.sch.uk
Mrs Sophie Elsey - Head of Hepworth Learning Community	elsey@mascalls.kent.sch.uk
Mr Mike Illsley - Acting Head of Westwood Learning Community	illsley@mascalls.kent.sch.uk
Miss Kristina Horn - Acting Head of Hockney Learning Community	horn@mascalls.kent.sch.uk

Once again, we would like to thank you for your support.

Yours faithfully



Mr A Farr
Lead Head of Learning Communities &
Riley Head of Learning Community