

RMCG/KRE

27th August 2024

Dear Parents/Carers

I am very much looking forward to welcoming back all of our students to Morton Academy on Wednesday 4th September. We had a lovely results day last week and I am happy with the progress the academy has made in terms of outcomes especially in a year where national results dipped. I am especially looking forward to welcoming our new Year 7s to the academy.

The academy doors will open at the rear entrance at 8.15am. I will be having assemblies with all students on the first day to start off the year and let them know of any updates. As you might expect we will be conducting uniform checks and issuing the equipment bundles if you have ordered one for your child. There are still lots available on Parent Pay should you wish to order this.

We have had a small number of concerns raised about our changes to uniform. I did want to explain very clearly why we have made the change. The very short jersey style skirts many female students have worn to the academy are not appropriate for children to wear in school and present potential safeguarding risks for children. We receive more messages of concern from local residents about this issue than anything else. For the last few years I have attempted to resolve this by issuing clear guidance that these skirts could not be worn but it has not worked. Therefore we have had to go to a preferred style of skirt as the only option. I appreciate that there is extra cost involved but we sourced the least expensive good quality option we could. Please do get in touch with your child's Head of Year if you require support with this and we will do what we can to support you.

As you might expect this will be enforced from the first day of term and we will send students home who are in inappropriate dress. I wanted parents to be aware of this in advance of the start of term. We also will be monitoring whether footwear is as we have requested.

My ambition for your child and our students is that they have the best school experience that they can. I can only do this with your support. Consistent uniform means all staff can focus more time on doing the things that will really benefit your child. I hope this helps you to understand my intentions with this change of approach.

Yours sincerely

Richard McGuire Principal

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