

Friday 10th July 2026

Dear parents/carers,

Another school year is almost complete! The Summer Term will end on **Friday 17th July. School will close at 12.10pm**. If students want to grab lunch before they leave, they can pre-order one that morning via their tutor and collect from the Main Office or Reception. I hope the students all enjoy a well-deserved break with you.

As usual, the end of the school year is a time for us to say farewell to a number of staff. We will be saying goodbye to the following teachers who have been with us covering for staff on maternity leave: Mr Ricketts (Languages), Mr Jones (Science) and Mr Heath (Geography). The following staff will also be leaving us. Best of luck to Mrs Cholmondley (Catering), Ms Florence (Catering), Miss Hodson (Cover), Mr Kerr (Computing), Mr Mottram (Languages), Mrs Smith (Business), Ms Sproston (Maths), Ms To (Catering), Mr Tweedle (Business) and Mrs Winstone (Maths) who will be leaving for new roles elsewhere. Mr Webb (Teaching assistant) is leaving us to embark on teacher training – he will be a great addition to the profession. We will also be bidding farewell to Miss Attwood (DT) and Mr Gledhill (Science) who are both retiring after long, successful careers in teaching. They have spent 44 years between them at this school. They are outstanding teachers and they will be very much missed. I wish them both a very long and happy retirement.

All of these are fabulous staff who have worked hard for thousands of Great Sankey students. On behalf of the students, Governors, parents, carers, and staff past and present, I would like to thank all these members of staff and wish them the best of luck for the future.

In September, Great Sankey High School will be celebrating its 50th birthday! Over the next few weeks, we will be working hard to set up an alumni page, where former students and staff can share their fond memories, photos and stories. Keep an eye on our website and social media for further information.

Uniform Expectations 2026/27

Our uniform expectations are in line with the latest statutory guidance. The only compulsory branded items for the uniform are the tie, blazer, PE top and, if chosen, the school skirt. A black V-neck school jumper with the school badge is optional and this does not replace the blazer. All other items such as shirts, blouses, socks, and trousers can be bought from any supermarket or shop.

For PE, it is the short sleeve button polo top, short sleeve round neck top, or long sleeve multisport top that are branded. You only need one of these. Please be aware, for PE, students can either wear plain black joggers, leggings, or PE shorts or those with the Great Sankey logo. Please note that cycling shorts or similar are not permitted.

We ask parents to work with us on our uniform & equipment expectations so that our students adhere to the simple rules that we have. By sending your child to this school, you have effectively signed up to our rules, or our 'terms and conditions' if you like. Please support the school by ensuring the footwear you get for September are acceptable school shoes. Often school shoes are much cheaper, and supportive, than the trainers some students wear. We would also be grateful if you could ensure your child is appropriately dressed for school each morning when they leave with skirts unrolled and shirts tucked in. Finally, students need to bring basic equipment into school. A pencil case containing a couple of pens, pencil, rubber etc is essential. The school's resources are not infinite, and we cannot provide items free of charge. At the end of this letter, I have attached our Uniform Guide which is also available on our website.

Term dates for 2026/27

Autumn Term

Open Wednesday 2 September - Close Friday 23 October

Open Monday 2 November - Close Friday 18 December

Spring Term

Open Tuesday 5 January - Close Friday 12 February

Open Monday 22 February - Close Thursday 25 March

Summer Term

Open Monday 12 April - Close Friday 28 May

Open Monday 7 June - Close Friday 16 July

INSET Days – (school closed to students)

Tuesday 1 September 2026, Monday 4 January 2027, Monday 19 July 2027, Tuesday 20 July 2027
& Wednesday 21 July 2027

Return to School – September 2026

School will reopen for each year group next term on the following dates and times:

Year 7 – Wednesday 2nd September 8.20am

Year 11 & 13 – Wednesday 2nd September 9.45am

Year 11/13 students who get the bus will be allowed to enter when they arrive.

Years 8, 9, 10 & 12 – Thursday 3rd September 8.20am

This is my last letter to you before I take early retirement this summer after 33 years of teaching. It has been a privilege to be the Headteacher of this great school and I have loved working here. I have experienced a whirlwind of emotions presenting my final assemblies this week and I am sure next week will be even more emotional. I will not be in school next Friday, on the last day of term, as I will be at my daughter's graduation in Newcastle. This seems very appropriate – as I finish my career, she is about to start hers. I want to thank all of the parents and carers who have supported me at various times over the last four years and especially those who have emailed me in the last few days. Every message of support has been very gratefully received. Your children are amazing and have so much to give to the local and wider community. I have been blessed to work alongside the outstanding staff here too. In every single area and department, they all do their very best for your children. They really do. I want to thank every single one of them for all they have done to support me and the school.

Great Sankey High School has been a wonderful place to finish my career. My only plan currently is to have an extended break in September and work out what lies ahead. I want to say a huge thank you to my wife, Jan, who is also retiring this summer. It can't be easy to be the wife/husband/partner of a Headteacher. During the last 13 years while I have been a Head, she has always been there, along with our children, through thick and thin and I know I would not have been able to do this job without her support.

Thank you for your continued support for the school and the staff and your children this year. I hope you all enjoy a long, relaxing summer break.

Best wishes



Mr G Evans
Headteacher



UNIFORM GUIDE

2026-27

Achieving Greatness Together

GROWTH  RESPECT  EXCELLENCE  ASPIRATION  TEAMWORK

Uniform

Buying a school uniform is a major expense and for this reason the uniform has been carefully chosen and priced so that it is distinctive from those of neighbouring schools, is easily obtainable and keenly priced. Our uniform expectations are compliant with statutory DfE branded uniform guidance that comes into effect September 2026.

Our uniform creates our school identity and establishes a sense of pride amongst the students. It is expected that all students will come to the school every day in full, neat, clean uniform, giving the message that our students take pride and place in our school community.

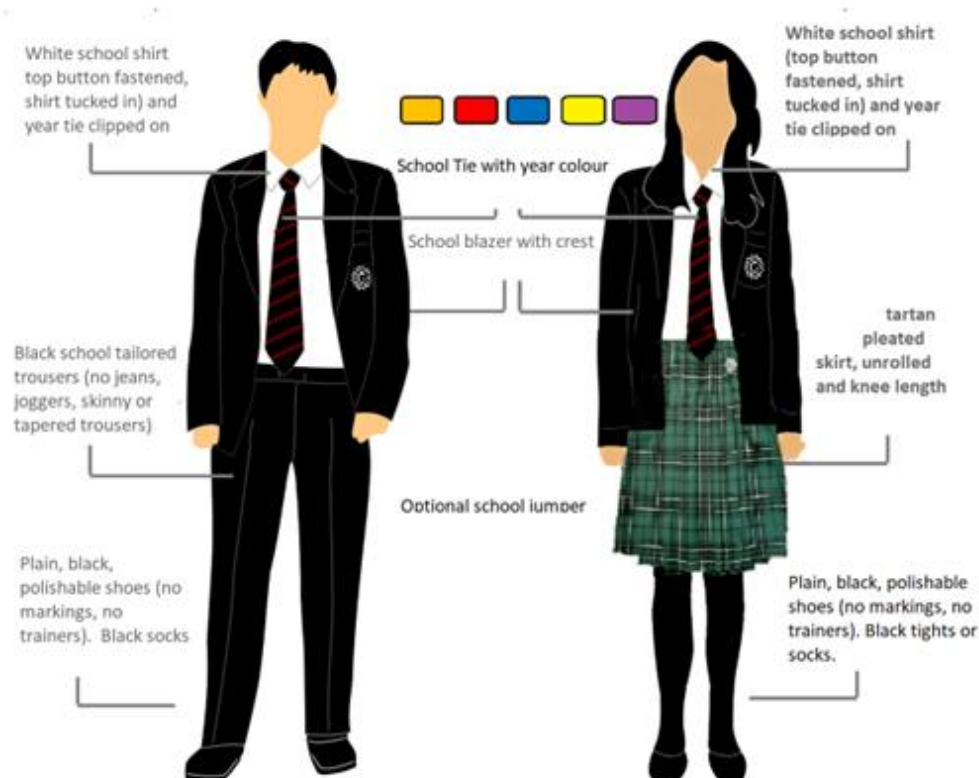
This will continue to be the case until the student leaves the school and will also apply to the public examination period for all students. Year 11 students will attend all examinations and revision sessions in full uniform until their last examination.

The support of parents in upholding our high standards and expectations of uniform and appearance is crucial. Staff are required to ensure these standards are always maintained and will challenge students who do not uphold our standards.

Our uniform sends a strong message about standards and self-worth. Admission to our school implies acceptance of the uniform code and students whose appearance does not meet our expectations may be sent home to change or be isolated from other students by a senior member of staff until it is rectified. Repeated disregard for school rules could result in further sanctions being levied.

We believe that wearing a uniform does not discriminate and ensures all students have equal opportunities and shared expectations, regardless of background.

**Students should always wear their uniform correctly, to, from and in the school.
Students may ask permission to remove their blazer when in class**



GSHS school uniform 2026/27

Blazer

Compulsory black blazer with GSHS logo.
Available in two different fits.



Skirt

Compulsory GSHS tartan skirt, *if not opting for tailored trousers*. Skirts should not be worn rolled up



Tie

Compulsory GSHS Clip on tie in appropriate year colour.



Year 7	Dark Blue
Year 8	Purple
Year 9	Yellow
Year 10	Orange
Year 11	Red

Jumper (optional, not to be worn in place of blazer)



Apron

An apron is compulsory for Food Technology lessons, such as the one illustrated below.



Non-branded compulsory items

Shirt/Blouse

Plain white buttoned shirt or blouse with either short or long sleeves

Trousers

The trousers should be plain black, tailored style. Demin, Lycra, cargo style etc. are not permitted. Leggings are not permitted.

✓ Acceptable styles ✗ Unacceptable styles



School bag

A plain dark school bag which is sturdy and large enough to hold an A4 folder and phone pouch. It should ideally be a rucksack. Small handbags or crossover bags are not permitted. Students should come with their bag fully equipped for the day.

✓ Acceptable styles ✗ Unacceptable styles



If you are in doubt about whether any item is permitted, please contact the school for advice.

Great Sankey High School Uniform Guide 2026-27

Shoes

Shoes must be black flat shoes with no other colours or marking.

They should be polishable, smart, leather formal type shoe. Suede, canvas, or leather trainers / leisure footwear are not acceptable. Trainers are not permitted.

Do not assume stores that label their stock 'School Shoes' will be an appropriate purchase.

Please use the photographs below as a guide of what is acceptable and what is not acceptable.

✓ Acceptable styles ✗ Unacceptable styles



Socks

Students may choose to wear plain, thick black tights. If socks are worn, these should **be black ankle socks only**.

GSHS PE Kit 2026/27

Polo/Multisport Top

COMPULSORY – Short sleeved button top OR long sleeve Multisport top with school logo



½ Zip top/hoodie

OPTIONAL long sleeve winter tops



Joggers/Leggings/shorts/skort

Students can wear **either** the Great Sankey logo **OR plain black** joggers, leggings, shorts or skort **of the same style**. Please note that cycling shorts/Lycra shorts or similar styles are not permitted.



PE Jacket **OPTIONAL**



Sports sock

Plain black socks



Trainers/boots

Trainers are required for PE. These can be sports branded or non-branded. They should be inexpensive. If you wish your child to also have a pair of studded boots for the 3G pitch, they need to have soft studs (molded) Metal studded boots are not permitted.

Health & Safety

No jewellery, including watches and earrings, is permitted during PE. Long hair must be tied back.

Uniform summary for 2026/27

Compulsory Uniform

- ☐ Black blazer with school badge in white
- ☐ Plain white school shirt/blouse with collar and top button (no logos) – short or long sleeved
- ☐ Clip on GSHS school tie in appropriate year colour

Choice of: Tartan GSHS school skirt **or** Black, formal tailored trousers

- ☐ Plain, black ankle socks **or** plain black tights
- ☐ Black, flat, polishable, smart, leather formal type shoe

Optional

- ☐ Black V-neck school jumper with school badge only

Daily Compulsory Equipment

- ☐ A plain dark school bag
- ☐ Phone pouch – *provided by school in the first instance.*
- ☐ Pencil case
- ☐ Pen x2 (black is required for examinations), pencil, rubber, ruler, pencil sharpener, green pen, compass, protractor, two highlighters (glue stick and pencil crayons – optional)
- ☐ Calculator
- ☐ Apron
- ☐ Reading book at KS3

Compulsory PE kit

- ☐ Short sleeve button polo top **or** long sleeve multisport top with school logo
- ☐ Joggers, leggings, shorts, **or** skort with the school logo **or** plain black but in the same style and no sports branding
- ☐ Plain black sports socks (plain or school logo)
- ☐ Trainers

Optional

- ☐ ½ zip top **or** hoodie with school logo
- ☐ PE jacket with logo
- ☐ Soft studded boots

Please note that if you are representing a school team you. will be expected to wear the branded GSHS school PE kit.

If unsure, parents are advised to contact school, via their year office, for clarification before purchasing an item.



Personal appearance

Hair

Hair must be worn in an appropriate style. Hair styles must be such that they can easily be kept neat and do not prevent students from participating effectively and safely in all school activities. All long hair **MUST** be tied back for Health and Safety purposes during practical subjects, such as (but not exclusively so) PE, Science, DT.

Heads must not be fully shaved and should be no shorter than a grade 2, nor should there be any style which the school believes would undermine the ethos or discipline of the school. Inappropriate extreme haircuts are not permitted.

The dying, high or low lighting of hair in natural colours is acceptable – other colours are not permitted. Students will be required to re-dye their hair in the event of failing to adhere to this rule.

Eyebrows should also look natural. Please see make up section for information about eye lashes.

Make-up

Make-up should be minimal and discreet for students in Year 10 and 11 only. False nails (including acrylics, BIAB or similar styles) for health and safety reasons. Coloured nail varnish, false eyelashes, lash extensions, false tan and excessive make-up must not be worn.

Students will be provided with hypo-allergenic make up remover and requested to remove their make-up should it be deemed excessive.

Jewellery

Students are permitted to wear **one pair of small, plain gold or silver stud earrings only**. Facial and body piercings such as nose, eyebrow, lip, and tongue are not permitted. Multiple piercings are not permitted.

All other jewellery, except for a watch, is not permitted.

Earrings and watches **MUST** be removed before PE lessons, without exception, and this includes smart watches.

All watches, including smart watches, are not permitted in examination settings.

Any items not worn in the manner described above will be confiscated and returned at the end of the school day. Form tutors are responsible for daily uniform checks, Students who wear jewellery, beyond those identified as acceptable, will be asked to hand this into a member of staff who will place it in a labelled envelope and left securely in the Year office for collection at the end of the day. Students who persist in wearing jewellery will have these items confiscated and parents will be contacted to arrange collection. Any jewellery confiscated will result in a negative uniform point.

School is not responsible for any jewellery which is brought into school. This includes it being stolen, lost or damaged.

Outdoor coats

Outdoor coats are recommended for students getting to school in poor weather conditions. They should be removed upon entering the school building.

Hoodies and non-uniform jumpers are not permitted. These items must be removed and should not be seen throughout the school day. If seen, they may be removed and kept in the year office until the end of the school day.

Uniform changes due to weather

Should there be any uniform changes due to weather, school will communicate this to families and students.

Parental Support

Parental support is crucial in upholding our high standard of uniform and appearance at our school. Parents are asked to note that we do not accept responsibility for loss of, or damage to personal property on, or left on, the premises.

The school retains the right to act as the final authority in the interpretation of the dress code and any student who fails to adhere to our uniform guidelines will risk being isolated or other sanctions as per the school's Behaviour Policy.

Uniform purchase and help

All uniform is available from: **Warrington Schoolwear** 50-54 Buttermarket Street, Warrington, WA1 2NN or via www.alphaschoolwear.com

Pre-loved uniform is also available from:

School Uniform Network – located at: Warrington Foodbank, Golden Square Shopping Centre, Bewsey and Dallam Hub and St Elphin's Pavilion

School uniform grants are available from: **Fashion and Textile Children's Trust**

If you are having any financial difficulty, please speak to your child's year team for further information and support.



