

Dear Parents and Carers,

As I write to you for the last time this academic year, I would like to reflect on what a challenging, but exceptional year it has been. This has included an Ofsted visit within the first 8 weeks, a return of face-to-face parent and carer meetings, a reflective Remembrance Assembly where all pupils across the school came together, our memorable Year R nativity, the phenomenal Addam's Family performance, our first community carols around the tree, successful performances in Dance Live – including a 3<sup>rd</sup> place overall for our primary team, football successes across all phases, first place in the enterprise events, the King's coronation celebration, presentation events, the community spirit of the Summer Fayre, residential trips, and so much more.

It has been exciting to be able to see just how much our children gain from these memorable experiences.

Most recently, we have had two exceptional sports days – one in Primary and one in seniors. These events have been incredibly successful and gave our young people many opportunities to participate in a variety of activities with their peers, working on their communication, resilience and providing them with the element of competition. **It was commented by our senior staff that “Our Sports Days had the best atmosphere of any they can remember...”** as staff and students enjoyed a day of healthy competition between the Houses.

Firstly, I want to thank Mr Browning and Mr Reid who planned, co-ordinated and led the events across both days. This takes a lot of work, and they did an amazing job. Also, I would like to thank each member of staff who helped make both days run smoothly, providing encouragement to all pupils to 'dig deep' and do their absolute best. It was also great to see such great relationships between staff and the young people, particularly at the Mountbatten Centre which would have been a new experience for our year 7 pupils.

There is no doubt that it has been a year full of challenges, but I would like to reiterate the previous message from the CEO of Salterns Academy Trust “...**the Mayfield School community has demonstrated it is strong and resilient, providing the firm foundations needed as it strives to become a thriving, successful school once again.**” The resilience, talent, and hard work of our school community has meant we have come through the school year with so much to be proud of yet recognise that there is much work to be done. Our incredible students continue to inspire us and show us we are right to Believe. Achieve. Succeed.

As you will already be aware, our new venture in working in partnership with Salterns Academy Trust and the two schools, Admiral Lord Nelson and Trafalgar has already begun. We are working closely with Salterns Trust leaders and have strengthened our collaborative working within particular subject departments across the seniors. In addition, Mr Cathie has commenced a full-time secondment to Mayfield School and will undertake a Senior Deputy Headteacher role working specifically in the areas of safeguarding, inclusion, and managing behaviour.

Mrs Copeland has also been seconded by the Trust on a part-time basis as Executive Headteacher for our School to work closely with myself and senior leaders.

I am confident that this leadership arrangement will see our school rapidly improve, grow and flourish.

As we head into the next academic year, it is crucial that we maintain the **uniform and dress standards for September 2023 onwards**. As you are aware, at Mayfield School, we pride ourselves on exceptionally high standards of uniform. We believe that uniform plays a fundamental part in shaping our pupils. We would like to thank all parents and carers who have supported us with ensuring that our high standards of uniform and dress code are met every day and that their child is proud to wear the Mayfield uniform.

### **Mayfield School Uniform Code**

We know when students arrive dressed smartly and fully prepared to learn, they feel part of the school community and are more likely to achieve their potential. Full school uniform therefore must be worn at all times. Uniform will be checked daily as pupils enter the school and staff will check uniform is correct before pupils enter their lessons and when pupils are in recreational periods.

Our policy on school uniform is based on the belief that we are all pleased to wear a uniform which:

- Helps to create a sense of community and belonging
- Supports the school's commitment to inclusion
- Prevents students from wearing clothes which could be distracting in class
- Is practical, smart and designed with health and safety in mind
- Is considered to be good value for money

### **From September, the following uniform will be required for every child in Seniors:**

#### **Compulsory branded items:**

- Black Mayfield School Blazer
- House coloured tie
- House coloured PE top.

#### **Compulsory items:**

- Black school trousers (leggings, jean style trousers or tracksuit bottoms are not permitted)
- Plain white shirt (button up neck and long enough to be tucked in at all times)
- Plain black or white ankle socks (over the knee socks or socks with bows are not permitted)
- Plain tights (fashion tights are not permitted)
- Black PE shorts or sports leggings/jogging bottoms
- Trainers for PE
- Plain black, waterproof, fully enclosed school shoes (**trainers are not permitted**). Please email [general@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk](mailto:general@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk) if you require confirmation on shoes before you purchase them).

#### **Optional items:**

- Mayfield skirt (worn at a suitable length, to the knee, not rolled up or taken up to a length which would be deemed inappropriate)
- Mayfield tailored black shorts
- Mayfield cardigan or v-neck jumper
- Mayfield House coloured sports tracksuit top.

Branded items can be purchased from Skoolkit, Penelope Ann Schoolwear or the Mayfield Pre-Loved Uniform Shop.

**In addition to our uniform requirements, we also have the following standards with regards dress code:**

- Hair must be of a natural colour and must not be extreme in length or design e.g. no tramlines
- Long hair must be tied back for practical lessons such as PE, dance, tech and science
- Jewellery is limited to stud earrings in the ear and a wristwatch. Other piercings must be removed or replaced with a clear retainer
- Shirts must be tucked in at all times
- Blazers must be worn around the building at all times unless permission is given to remove them
- False nails are not allowed and must be removed before coming in to school
- Make-up must be minimal and nail polish of a discreet, natural colour
- Outdoor coats must be removed on entry to school and either stored in a locker or school bag.

**Equipment requirements:**

- School bag large enough to carry PE kit and exercise books for all lessons
- Pencil case containing black ball-point pen, pencils, eraser, glue stick, ruler, purple ball-point pen Casio FX calculator
- Spare hair bands for practical lessons (if hair longer than shoulder length).

**Mobile phones:**

Our school is a mobile phone and airpod/earphone free building. This is for safeguarding reasons. Therefore, if you send your child to school with a phone, these must be switched off and put away in bags or lockers.

If pupils are seen with a mobile phone or wearing airpods/earphones, they will be confiscated by a member of staff and returned to parents.

These expectations are non-negotiable for all. Parents should provide a signed and dated note where a non-uniform item is being worn. Even with a note, students will be expected to borrow uniform and may still be sent home to change, or kept out of normal lessons, if they are not in correct uniform. If you require support meeting these high expectations, please contact the school as a matter of urgency.

**Anyone not meeting the uniform expectations will be asked to borrow spare uniform or sent home to change.**

The children in seniors have had an assembly this Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2023, reminding them of the expectations at Mayfield which will include the wearing of the correct uniform and how they conduct themselves as a Mayfield student.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding our uniform expectations, Mrs Copeland, Mr Cathie and I will be available to arrange an appointment and speak with you face to face on the afternoon of Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2023.

**GCSE Exams and BTECs**

We have had a number of young people take their GCSE's this half term and are so very proud of how they have applied themselves to this challenge with the support of staff and families. We are excited about **Results Day on Thursday 24th August**, when staff will be welcoming our Year 11 students back to school to collect their results.

## **Saying Goodbye and Thank You**

We say goodbye and thank you to the following staff for their hard work and dedication during their time with us at Mayfield School. On your behalf, I wish them all every success in their chosen futures and hope that they will always feel a sense of belonging to our Mayfield Family.

A special mention is needed for;

Mr Ralph, who is leaving us after 10 years. He has devoted his time to the development of Mathematics in seniors becoming second in department and then taking on the subject leader role. I would like to wish him well in his relocation and his new post in September.

Mr Browning, Subject Leader for On-site PE is leaving us after 11 years of tremendous service in our PE team. On your behalf, I want to thank him for the phenomenal part he has played in our school community for over a decade and to wish him every success in the future in his new role.

Miss Drudge, who is leaving us after 13 years. She has dedicated her time in the English department establishing an excellent relationship with all of her students. Most recently, she has taken the lead role within the English department in the seniors and has ensured that the department is ready for the next stage in its improvement. I wish her all the very best for her new venture.

A special mention is also needed for Mrs Anders, who is leaving us after 22 years of dedicated service firstly in our PE department and then as the school's DSL and SENDCo. In this time, she will have helped shape the future for hundreds of our children. Erika will be greatly missed but we all wish her every happiness in her new role at her new school.

We also say goodbye to;

Mr Ralls, Miss Hull, Mr Tufnall, Ms Catlin, Mr Firth, Mr Rafferty-Croft, Miss Hall, Mr Baptiste, Mr Ralph, Mr Batchelor, Mrs Page, Miss Bennett, Mrs Lawes, Miss Andreou, Miss Blendulf.

As some of our staff move on to new ventures, others join our journey. We would like to officially welcome our new members of staff who will join our Mayfield Family.

Miss Ainsworth, who joins as Deputy Head of Primary, Mrs Bates who joins us as EYFS Leader and Miss Farmer and Miss Lawry who join our Primary teaching team.

Mrs Hardy, Miss Jeram, Miss Greenfield who join our primary teaching assistant team.

Miss Jackson who will join our senior Geography teaching team.

Ms Earl who will be Subject Leader for English in seniors, Mrs Blake-Allen and Miss Chetty who will join our Senior English teaching team.

Mr Jordan and Mrs Newman who will be our new teachers of Maths in seniors.

Mrs Doling-Hernandez-Sanchez and Mrs Munoz who will be our new teachers of Spanish in seniors.

Miss Medley and Miss Scott who will be our new teachers of Business and Computing and Miss Lepheana our new Science teacher in seniors.

Miss Nicholson, Mrs Rolfe, Mrs Barnicott, Mrs Foster, Mr Sharkey and Mrs Durve who will join our Learning Support Team in seniors.

Ms Musselwhite who has already joined us as our Primary Nurture Leader and Mr Harding who joins our peripatetic music teaching team.

Lastly, I just want to thank you all for your support this year, it has been very much appreciated. We are all looking forward to seeing you all again at the start of the next academic year. I wish you all a relaxing and restful summer holiday with your child/ren.

Yours sincerely



Mr Howard  
Headteacher

Believe. Achieve. Succeed

Headteacher, Mr. Ashley Howard

