



Dear Parent(s)/ Carer(s)

I would like to thank parents for the warm welcome as the incoming Principal of Gateacre School. There are many reasons why I know our school, our pupils, our staff, our community will thrive – one of the significant factors is you, the parents/carers. My experience tells me that you will make the difference. If you trust the process, ensure your child is in school over 97% of the time, follow the policies rigorously, I will guarantee your child great successes.

Our first priority is for every student to feel happy, safe and be healthy. We are aiming for pupils to make continuous and consistent progress and achieve their full potential. A key requirement in achieving this is to have the highest expectations and standards in all that we do. Therefore, we will be raising our expectations with regards to student conduct and behaviour to ensure that all students can learn in an environment that is free from disruption. We will then also be raising the standards within the classroom through the delivery of our knowledge-rich curriculum.

The mantra from September will be clear: all choices have consequences – both positive and negative.

Behaviour

To ensure a safe and happy school where all students can achieve their academic potential and develop their character, excellent behaviour and attitudes are crucial. We expect all students to behave well and follow school rules, treat others with respect and ensure they do not disrupt the learning of other students.

Our focus will be on:

- Rewarding students for positive behaviour so that they know that excellent learning and character are valued.
- Supporting and guiding students by setting and communicating clear, high expectations.
- Ensuring consistent consequences for **Disruptive** and **Red Line** (serious) behaviours.

We will not lower our standards as we will not leave your child’s or other children’s futures to chance.

Uniform standards including bags

All students are expected to wear the correct uniform with pride and arrive at school ready for learning with the correct equipment in an agreed **school bag**.

Starting in September, members of the Senior Leadership Team will welcome your child at the school gate and check they are wearing the correct uniform and have the correct equipment. If necessary, we have spare uniform and equipment for students to borrow for that day. However, this will be monitored and tracked for those who repeatedly fail to be prepared.

GIRLS



BOYS



We will accept the Kickers imaged below.





PE Kit

Pupils must wear black shorts with white piping, black or purple Gateacre polo tops, black plain leggings. They may also purchase a Gateacre fleece. However, pupils should not wear their own branded clothing including hoodies. These will not be permitted.

Equipment

Essential Equipment, all in a clear pencil case (calculator may not fit in the pencil case but should still be purchased):

- Black pen
- Red pen
- Pencil
- Ruler
- Calculator

More detailed information on uniform and equipment can be found on the Gateacre School website [Uniform - Gateacre School](#). Please take note of the specific requirements for bags, shoes, make-up and jewellery/hair accessories:

- **School bags:** Must be at least **A4** in size and suitable for carrying exercise books (no handbags, man bags, and no bags with obvious logos/ designer labels).
- **School shoes:** Black, polishable leather or simulated leather (no boots, canvas shoes or branded trainer makes). All shoes must have a flat sole (no heeled shoes). Kickers (as detailed above) are permitted.
- **Make-up:** No make-up is to be worn or allowed in school (hypo-allergenic make-up remover wipes will be provided if needed).
- **Hair:** Should not be outlandish in style or colour. Hairbrushes should not be seen in school. Girls should try to tie their hair up.
- **Jewellery:** Only one small plain stud in each earlobe is allowed; no other jewellery. No facial piercings beyond ear studs are permitted.
- **Nails** – no nail polish, no biab, and no false/acrylic nails.
- **Eye lashes** – no false eye lashes.

*For our students with sensory needs, many retail outlets provide sensory adaptations.

Mobile Phones

Research has shown the link between mobile phones and reduced educational performance, poor behaviour and negative impacts on students' wellbeing. For this reason, we **will** be banning the use of mobile phones whilst at school. Mobile phones must be switched off and remain in the student's school bag. If **seen or heard** by staff, the mobile phone will be confiscated and returned at the end of the school day. Repeated failure to follow the mobile phone rules will result in its confiscation for longer periods.

Below is a link to the DfE Guidance that sets out the rationale, roles and responsibilities of parents, the school and pupils.

[Mobile phones in schools \(February 2024\)](#)

If any form of communication is needed during the school day, this must be communicated via the school office. There will be no negotiation on this.

Attendance

Good school attendance is key to your child's success. Students must arrive at school by 8:40am each day. We expect all students to have an attendance record of 97% or above. Should your child fall below this standard, it will be addressed by school in the first instance and support offered. If attendance continues to be a concern, then this could result in the involvement of the Local Authority Education Welfare Service. Please note that we will actively pursue low-level attendance with penalty notices and where necessary prosecution. Gateacre School do not authorise extended holiday leave or term-time holidays, and we will issue fixed penalty notices when such cases arise.

Every Half Term	Attendance	Equates to
Excellent	98 – 100%	1 day off per half term
Good but not quite there	95 – 97%	1.5 days off per half term
Requires Improvement	91 – 94%	2 days off per half term
Concerns	Below 90%	More than 3 days off per half term
Serious concerns	85% and below	6 days plus off per half term



New Routine for the School Day

Each day will begin with a warm welcome from staff as students cross the ‘Ready for Learning’ line at the new student entrance. At this point, any students wearing the incorrect uniform or lacking the correct equipment will be provided with the necessary items to be returned at the end of the school day.

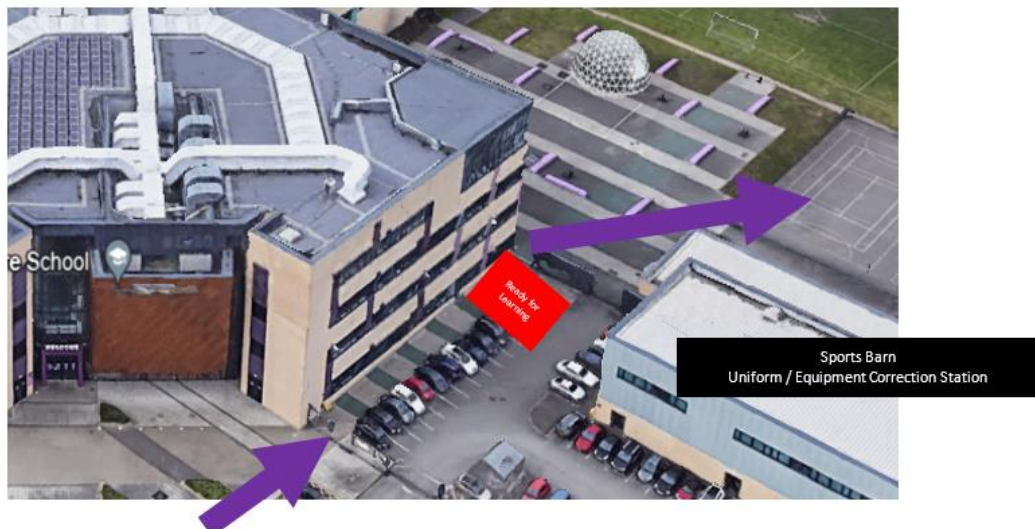
Adverse weather

Should there be adverse weather, we will direct pupils into the building as safely as possible and suspend the line up in such situations.

Pupils who are late

Any pupils that arrive later than 8.40am, will be directed to a late room where they will receive their checks separately to ensure they are ready for learning. This will include a detention. Checks will take place for all pupils at Gateacre.

The new entry point to school is captured below. Please note that this is also the Exit Point at the end of each day at 3.15pm.



Timings of the School Day

All students must arrive by 8:40am each day and will line up in silence on the school grounds to hear a positive and motivating morning address the Principal. Following this they will be dismissed to their form rooms.

7.45am	School gates are open
8.00am	School building is open
8.40am	First bell, line up & principal’s address
8.45am	Dismissal to forms
9.00am	Period 1
9.50am	Period 2
10.40am	BREAK
10.55am	Period 3
11.45am	Period 4
12.35pm	LUNCH (Y7,9 & 11) FORM (Y8, Y10, 6th Form)
1.05pm	FORM (Y8, Y10 & 6th Form) LUNCH (Y7,9 & 11)
1.35pm	Period 5
2.25pm	Period 6
3.15pm	End of the School Day



First day back

Date	Year group
Wednesday 4 th September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Y7 – 8.40am • Y11 – 10.40am • Y12/13 – 11.00am
Thursday 5 th September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All pupils and all year groups (Y7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13) in for 8.40am

* Monday 2nd and Tuesday 3rd September are INSET (staff training days).

INSET Days (school is closed)

Date
2 nd September 2024
3 rd September 2024
4 th November 2024
20 th December 2024
22 nd April 2025
27 th June 2025

EduLink

We use EduLink to provide you with comprehensive information about your child’s achievements, attendance and behaviour. This platform helps support your child in partnership with us in achieving academic success and personal growth.

Working together, we can ensure all our students attend our warm and welcoming school every day, ready to learn with clear high expectations, developing personal growth and showing respect and kindness. This consistent message will help your child excel and achieve great success unlocking life-changing opportunities through education.

This will be an outstanding school, and once routines are established, your child will thrive academically and pastorally. Therefore, we will not compromise on our high standards. Please do note, though, the rewards will also be of the highest standards as we believe the most powerful aspect of behaviour policy are the rewards.

Have a great summer.

Yours faithfully,

Mr. N. Jamil
Principal