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Proud to be part of  Waterton Academy Trust

Tuesday 22nd April 2025

Welcome Back – Summer Term

Welcome back – I hope you had a lovely Easter. Below are a few quick reminders now we are back, plus events for this half term. It is a very short half term, with only 22 full school days at the time of writing. As always, you will be communicated with if there are any changes or new dates added.

Event:	Date:
Year 5 & 6 Fire Safety Talk	Wednesday 23 rd April 2025
After-school clubs recommence *separate letter*	Monday 28 th April 2025
Year 5 Trip to Beamish	Friday 9 th May 2025
SATs Week (Year 6) *ALL YEAR 6 CHILDREN MUST BE AT SCHOOL*	Monday 12th May – Thursday 15th May 2025
SKA Exhibition (Families invited)	Wednesday 21 st May 2025
May half-term – End of Summer 1	Break up at 3:20pm on Friday 23 rd May 2025
Back to school – Start of Summer 2	Back to school at 8:45am on Monday 2 nd June 2025

After School Clubs

As shared in the final newsletter before the Easter holidays, there are no after-school clubs this week. Information relating to our summer term clubs will be shared this week including how to sign up on MCAS.

Importance of Attendance

After doing really well for a number of weeks, attendance was very poor during the final week at 90%. I have attached a new visual at the end of this letter summarising changes to attendance across the country in August 2024. Currently, there are too many children persistently absent from school (attending below 90% of the time) and we will complete targeted work with these children and their families, working together to improve their attendance. Good attendance is vital for social, emotional and academic success at school and beyond.

Start and End of School Day Reminders

- Doors are open between 8:45am and 9am. Gates open between 8:35am and 8:40am.
- Breakfast club starts at 8:10am.
- Children arriving between 9am and 9:10am will be marked as 'L' for late.
- Children arriving after 9:10am will be marked as 'U' for unauthorised.
- School finishes at 3:20pm and children must leave the school site promptly, not riding bikes or scooters.
- 3:20pm is the best time to catch your child's class teacher – please avoid doing this in the morning as they will be busy welcoming the children, registering them and starting lessons.

Uniform

As we move into the warmer weather, a reminder of our school uniform policy is attached, including P.E. kit expectations. Please note cycling shorts are now not permitted – this was updated for this year as last year, too many children were wearing shorts too tight and too short for school. Please also ensure your child is bringing a water bottle to school every day, plus a hat and sun cream when it is hot. Sun cream should be in a named bottle and your child will be responsible for applying their own, so please show them how to do this.

Annual Survey

Thank you if you filled out our [annual survey](#) – I am extending this until Friday, so if you have not yet had your say please do fill it in. We have currently had a quarter of families fill this in and this feedback is fundamental in celebrating what we do well and identifying what we need to improve.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

A Potter (Headteacher)

Designated Safeguarding Lead: Mr A Potter Safeguarding Team: Miss S Burns (Deputy DSL), Miss K Jones, Mrs M Matthews, Mrs E Studd
Safeguarding Governor: Mrs L Ward
Worried a child is at risk of harm? Please speak to one of the members of staff listed here or call **Social Care Direct** on 0345 8503 503.





5 GOVERNMENT CHANGES TO ATTENDANCE

Legally enforced from August 2024

£160

1

“I’m a single parent/carer of 1 child and want to go on holiday for a week during term time.”

You must fill out a leave of absence request form with accompanying letter to notify school of the holiday. The holiday will not be authorised unless there are exceptional circumstances. You will be given a penalty notice if your child misses 5 school days (10 sessions). The fine is £160, reduced to £80 if paid within 21 days.

2

A penalty is given for each child.



£160

£160

£160

£160

1 parent with 4 children =
£640 reduced to £320 if paid
within 21 days.

£640

3

For a family of two parents.

Both parents/carers
are fined for each
child. For example:



£320

£320

£320

£320

2 parents with 4 children =
£1280, reduced to £640 if paid
within 21 days

4

Multiple holidays or patterns of irregular attendance within 3 years. (2 parents)

2nd offence

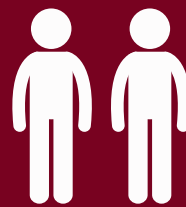
1 child: £320

2 children: £640

3 children: £960

4 children: £1280

**NO
DISCOUNT
FOR EARLY
PAYMENT**



3rd offence

No penalty notice. Instead, your case will be taken
to court. A magistrate can fine each parent £2500
for each child

1 parent & 4 children: £10,000 2 parents & 4 children: £20,000

5

Irregular Attendance ‘10 in 10’ 1 DAY = 2 SESSIONS

If your child has 10 sessions of unauthorised absence within a rolling period of 10 school weeks or less, we will consider prosecution. These sessions may be consecutive or not.

Example: 3 days of unauthorised absence in one week + one day of absence per week for the next two weeks = 10 sessions (irregular attendance)



Uniform Policy

2024-2025

The uniform at South Kirkby Academy is designed to be smart, comfortable and cost effective. This uniform policy has been written to ensure that uniform expectations are clear with a number of different options and combinations of clothing. At South Kirkby Academy, we understand that the increasing cost of living is affecting all of our families; we provide financial support where needed and treat all financial matters with strict confidentiality.

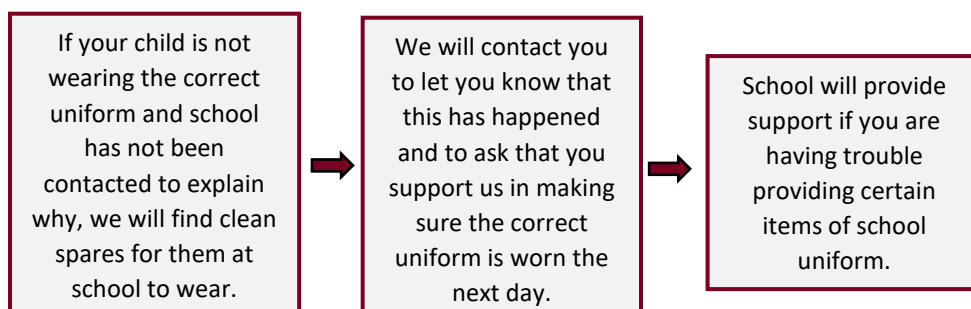
Uniform	P.E. Kit
Dark red sweatshirt or cardigan with SKA Logo	White or light grey plain t-shirt
Plain dark red sweatshirt or cardigan	White or light grey polo top
Plain white polo top	Black shorts
Black or dark-grey trousers (no leggings)	Black tracksuit bottoms/joggers
Black or dark-grey skirt	Black or grey hoodie with SKA logo
Black or dark-grey tailored shorts (no sports or cycling shorts)	Plain black or grey hoodie (no logos)
Black or dark-grey pinafore dress	Plain black or grey sweatshirt (no logos)
Red & white Gingham summer dress	Trainers for outdoor P.E.
Black shoes/sandals (black trainers are acceptable but they must be entirely black)	Black indoor plimsoles/pumps for indoor P.E.

Items of clothing and accessories NOT allowed:

- No leggings, sports or cycling shorts to be worn as uniform.
- Hair accessories that cannot be removed for safety reasons (e.g. P.E. lessons).
- Shoes/boots with high or wedged heels are not suitable footwear for school.
- Watches and stud earrings may be worn but no other jewellery is permitted and will be confiscated.
- Make-up, false nails and nail varnish should not be worn, and children will be asked to remove these straight away if they are found to be wearing them.
 - Fake tattoos should not be worn.
- Football kits (or kits for other sports) should not be worn for P.E. lessons.
- On non-uniform days, appropriate clothing for school should be worn.

***Any confiscated items will be returned at the end of the school day and families will be contacted.**

If your child is not wearing the correct uniform:



Our uniform provider has recently changed to **Graham Briggs School Outfitters**. You can contact Graham via Facebook or telephone 07944825103.

Reviewed July 2024 by the Senior Leadership Team