

22nd March 2024

Dear Families

We wanted to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support of the academy and the trust. In readiness for the summer term, we would like to remind you of our expectations for school uniform and absence during term time:

- Purple sweatshirt or cardigan (with school logo)
- White polo shirt or white school shirt
- Grey skirt, trousers or school shorts
- Grey socks or tights
- Black shoes (plain)

Summer uniform (purple dress, white socks, black shoes) may be worn Easter - October half term.

Children also require a PE kit consisting of:

- White plain T shirt
- Black shorts
- Black socks

Swimming

- One piece Swimming Costume/shorts or trunks
- Swimming Cap

Uniform - our Policy can be found on the website

<https://www.greystone.outwood.com/uniform>

Jewellery and Earrings are not permitted in school. No jewellery is allowed except a wrist watch and a Medic Alert necklace or bracelet. Smart watches are not allowed in the school. If any student is thinking about having their ears pierced, or any other piercing, this should be done at the start of the summer holiday, as no student will be allowed to wear earrings or any other jewellery at any time

Absence in term time

The law does not grant parents an automatic right to take their child out of school during term time. Any absence from school will disrupt your child's learning. You may consider that a holiday will be educational but your child will still miss out on the teaching that their classmates will receive during your holiday. Children returning from a term time holiday are also unprepared for the lessons which build on the teaching they have missed. Teachers then have to give more time to help individual children catch up on missed work. This poses a potential risk of the underachievement of other students in the class. This is something we all have a responsibility to avoid.

In line with government guidance and legislation, OPA Greystone will no longer authorise the taking of term time holidays by pupils. OPA Greystone will not grant requests for term time holidays unless exceptional circumstances are given and supporting evidence is supplied. This will be at the discretion of the Principal.

In the case of an unauthorised holiday the Education Welfare Service will be notified of the holiday taken and a Penalty Notice will be issued. Please note that a Penalty is issued to each parent for each child taken out of school. A Penalty Notice is a fine of £60 per parent, per child if paid within the first 21 days. This will increase to £120 if paid after 21 days but within the 28 day period. Thereafter, if the Penalty remains unpaid this may result in legal action under section 444 of the Education Act 1996.

All holiday requests must be completed on the Application by Parent/Carer for Child's Leave of Absence from School during Term Time form, letters will not be accepted. This should be returned to the school at least 14 days before the start of the holiday. Please ask the office for a copy of the form.

Please note – It is school policy not to authorise holidays in term time. The only exception would be if a parent was in the armed forces.

We look forward to welcoming you back to the academy on Monday 8th April. We encourage you to be on-site at 8.40am each morning.

Once again, we would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support. We hope that you and your family have a fantastic Easter break.

Kind Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S McCarthy', written in a cursive style.

Mrs Sam McCarthy
Head of School