Sacred Heart
Catholic Academy

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Dear Families,

I hope this letter finds you and your loved ones in good health and high spirits. I am writing to share some information to assist the start of the 26/27 academic year.

GCSE RESULTS:

The Class of 2026 have a great deal to be proud of. Throughout their time at Sacred Heart, they truly embodied our vision of **"To Be More"**, culminating in an exceptional set of GCSE results. The year group achieved our strongest set of qualifications for a number of years and, certainly, the most impressive since Sacred Heart became an academy. More importantly, these achievements have provided a launchpad for the vast majority of our pupils to progress to their first-choice courses and apprenticeships. I am sure you will join me in congratulating them on their achievements and wishing them every success and happiness as they begin the next exciting chapter of their lives.

School return

A quick reminder of the dates when pupils return and our newest cohort of year 7 begin their Sacred Heart adventure

Monday31st Aug	Tuesday 1st Sept	Wednesday 2nd Sept	Thursday 3rd Sept	Friday 4th Sept
Bank Holiday	INSET day	Year 7 and Year 11	All pupils	All pupils

School blazer

Our uniform supplier, Paul's Place, has informed us that, due to high demand, some blazer sizes will not be available until mid-September. We would like to reassure families that all pupils may continue to wear the previous school blazer throughout the 2026–2027 academic year. We are working closely with Paul's Place, who will keep families updated and notify them as soon as the new blazers are available in the required sizes.

School day

The school day has some slight alterations as detailed at the end of the last academic year. Here is a reminder of the timings.

8.40am – 9.38am	Lesson 1
9.38am – 10.36am	Lesson 2
10.36am – 11.06am	Registration
11.06am – 11.21am	Break
11.21am – 12.19pm	Lesson 3
12.19pm – 1.17pm	Lesson 4
1.17 – 1.47pm	Lunch
1.47pm – 2.45pm	Lesson 5

Uniform

I would like to take this opportunity to emphasise the importance of our uniform policy and provide some clarification on our expectations moving forward. False nails and nail varnish are not allowed. **Therefore, if pupils get their nails done over the summer break this must be removed on return to school.**

It is also important to raise the issue of skirts and school shoes; the expectation is that on their return to school all pupils will be in sc**hool shoes** and **skirts must be knee length**.

Hairstyles: It is essential that all students attend school with their hair in its **natural colour**. We appreciate your cooperation in maintaining a neat and tidy appearance, which promotes a sense of unity and professionalism among our students.

Make-up, Fake Tan & Nail Varnish: It is crucial that these items are not worn by any student. We kindly request your support in ensuring that students adhere to this policy. Additionally, please note that any type of false nails are not allowed.

Jewellery: We ask that only an inexpensive wristwatch be worn by students. As for earrings, small plain studs are permitted.

Shoes: Students are required to wear black shoes with flat or low heels. Only pupils who have medical evidence such as a letter from a GP or physiotherapist will be exempt from wearing shoes.

Bags: All pupils are expected to have a suitable school bag such as a rucksack to carry any equipment or books needed throughout a typical school day.

Equipment: The pupil planner lists all the equipment a pupil will need for a typical day at school.

Girls	Boys
• Navy blue blazer with academy badge • Plain, navy-blue long-sleeved V-neck pullover • Pale blue shirt/revere collar blouse. Ties are not compulsory with revere collar. • **Medium grey skirt–knee length or just below the knee or tailored regular-fit grey trousers** • Plain blue below the knee socks or navy tights • Plain dark navy or black coat. • Black shoes with flat/low heels. NO trainers or labelled footwear are allowed.	• Navy blue blazer with academy badge • Plain, navy blue V-neck pullover with long sleeves • **Pale blue shirt with school tie to be always worn correctly.** • Medium grey normal width trousers. • Black or grey socks • Plain dark navy or black coat. • **Black shoes with flat/low heels. NO training shoes or labelled footwear are allowed.**

By reinforcing these uniform expectations, we aim to create an inclusive and respectful learning environment for all students, where focus can be directed towards academic growth and personal development. Your continued support in upholding these standards is greatly appreciated.

As always, please do not hesitate to reach out to us should you have any questions or concerns. We value the partnership between home and school and remain committed to providing the best educational experience for our students.

Wishing you a successful and enjoyable start to the new academic year.

Yours Faithfully

Mark O'Hagan
Headteacher
Sacred Heart Catholic Academy