

Supplementary information

Your ongoing support is greatly appreciated as we continue to raise expectations and standards across the school, which will ultimately lead to improved outcomes for all our students. We kindly ask that you take time to read through the contents of this letter with your child to ensure they are fully aware of our expectations moving forward.

Attendance and Punctuality

As part of our drive to continue raising standards, we request your full support in ensuring that your child attends school every day and arrives punctually. Good attendance and punctuality are essential for success and have a direct impact on academic achievement, confidence and future life chances.

Students who attend school regularly are far more likely to achieve strong qualifications and access further education, employment or training. Even short periods of absence result in missed learning that is difficult to recover. Lateness also disrupts learning and negatively affects routines and attitudes to school.

We ask that you:

- Avoid holidays during term time
- Arrange medical appointments outside school hours wherever possible
- Ensure your child arrives at school on time each day- before 8.30am, fully prepared and equipped

Attendance and punctuality are closely monitored, and we will continue to work closely with families if concerns arise. You can monitor your child's attendance on the Arbor app; school will also continue to keep you informed on your child's attendance via emails and phone calls.

School Uniform

We must ensure that uniform standards remain high at all times. The MSJ uniform is fully compliant with the governments' guidance from 2026, there are up to four branded MSJ items to support with the cost of uniform- the tie, the blazer and the PE kit. Please refer to the school website for the full uniform list: [School Uniform - Mount St Joseph Catholic School](#)

- Trousers must be tailored school trousers (not slim-fit or flared at the ankle)
- Footwear must be school shoes, not trainers
- Skirts must be knee length or longer
- Black tights must be worn if a student chooses to wear a skirt

We would like to specifically highlight expectations around hair and jewellery:

- No piercings are permitted
- Extreme hairstyles or unnatural hair colours are not allowed

We thank you in advance for your support in helping us maintain these high standards.

Lanyards

Year-group-coloured lanyards must be carried at all times as part of the school uniform. Please ensure these are stored safely over the Christmas break and returned to school in January. Lanyards are required for purchasing food at break and lunch.

If a lanyard has been lost, please contact reception@msj.stoccat.org.uk and we will arrange for a replacement to be ordered.

Mobile Phones and Electronic Devices

To support student progress and minimise distraction during learning time, mobile phones and all electronic devices must be switched off and kept out of sight throughout the school day, including at break and lunch.

Any student found using a mobile phone or electronic device during the school day will have it confiscated until the end of the school day. We ask for your support in reinforcing this expectation with your child.

Social Media and Online Safety

Many students navigate the online world responsibly; however, some require additional support from both school and home. Online safety continues to be reinforced through assemblies, lessons and pastoral support. We strongly encourage parents and carers to discuss online behaviour regularly with their child and to check regularly what your child is accessing and posting on social media accounts.

All of the above information, along with further guidance, can be found on our school website: www.msj.stoccat.org.uk

Thank you in advance for your continued support