



Midhurst Rother College

The best in everyone™

Part of United Learning

15 July 2025

Dear Parent / Carer

End of term update

This academic year seems to have gone by very quickly. It is hard to believe that our Year 7 have very nearly completed a whole year with us. I look forward to welcoming our new Year 7 in September and to celebrating individual and collective exam result successes in the summer. As you know, I communicate informally each week with you via Midhurst Matters. This letter is more 'formal' and provides key updates for you to help with planning for the new term. I have divided it into sections for ease of reading and reference.

College Improvement Priorities 2025/26

These are unchanged from the current year and underpin our core purpose. There are three priorities for the next academic year, which are:

1. Everyone attends: all students attend school every day.
2. Excellent teaching: students receive excellent teaching in every lesson, every day. They also work their hardest for every minute of every lesson.
3. Excellent behaviour: students' behaviour is always exceptional.

New school day

The new school day will run from 8.30 – 3.05pm. Students must be on site by 8.25am to make sure they are ready to be in tutor rooms by 8.30. The timings of the new school day are here: [Midhurst Rother College > Information > College Day Timings](#)

Bus times, late buses and after school clubs

School bus timetables have changed to fit in with the new school day. Any buses run by the Local Authority will leave the school site at 3.20pm every day. The following is information about Stagecoach buses:

- 1 - Midhurst to Worthing: will depart at 15:35 from the Midhurst bus stand (unchanged)
- 60 - Midhurst to Chichester: will depart at 15:20 from the Midhurst bus stand
- 70 - Midhurst to Guildford: will depart at 15:20 from the Midhurst bus stand
- 91 - Midhurst to Petersfield: will depart at 15:20 from the Midhurst bus stand

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422 - MRC to Northchapel: will depart at 15:15 from the school grounds

470 - MRC to Hammer Hill: will depart at 15:15 from the school grounds

We are running late buses for children who take part in after-school clubs and activities. The late buses will cover the major drop-off points in our catchment area and will depart the car park at 4pm each day. These buses can also be used by students who are asked to stay behind after school to catch up on schoolwork.

Clubs and activities will start in the second full week of term, which is w/c 15 September. The first day for clubs will be Tuesday 16 September and students will be able to sign up w/c 8 September.

PE changing rooms

This is a reminder to all parents / carers about the planned work to update our changing rooms from the autumn term. This will have an impact on the uniform students wear to school on days when they have PE only. I wrote to parents / carers separately about this. This letter can be found here: [Changing rooms upgrade and PE kit – academic year 2025/26](#)

Mobile phone policy change

I wrote to parents recently about changes to our mobile phone policy. We are tightening our expectations around mobile phones in school and will insist that they are 'switched off and in bags at the school gate'. To make this work effectively, we will do the following:

- Students seen with a mobile phone / 'airpods' (or similar) anywhere on the school grounds will have them confiscated. We will not permit phone use once students are inside the school grounds – 'phones off at the school gate' is the approach we will take.
- If a mobile phone is seen or heard during the school day, it will be confiscated and the student will be sent to our link room for the remainder of the day.
- Should a student's mobile phone be confiscated for being seen or heard, they will be required to hand their phone in at the start of every day and collect at the end of the day for one half-term.

There has been one addition to this since I wrote to parents / carers about this change. We will also do random 'spot-checks' on students to make sure phones are off and in bags. If they are not off and in bags, we will confiscate them in the same way as indicated above. The full letter is available here: [Mobile phone letter](#)

Start of term in September

The first day for all students is Friday 5 September. This will be week A on timetables. Students will spend some time with tutors, I will see each year group in assemblies to set out the year ahead and lessons will start. Attendance is one of the biggest challenges that schools face and it is essential that we start as we mean to go on with everyone in school.

Information evenings

We will be running information evenings for each year group starting in the first week back. These will start at 6pm and will cover important information pertinent to your child's year group. The dates for your diary are:

Year 7	18 September - Welcome Evening
Year 7	24 September - Information Evening and Meet the Tutor
Year 8	16 September - Information Evening
Year 9	9 September - Information Evening
Year 10	23 September - Information Evening
Year 11	15 September - GCSE Success Evening
Year 12	8 September – Information Evening
Year 13	17 September – Setting up for success

And finally...

I am pleased that more families have chosen to send their children to us and we operate a waiting list in every year group. Visitors comment on the positive, calm and purposeful atmosphere in the school. Our Sixth Form looks set to be the biggest we have ever had at MRC as more Year 11 choose to stay with us. These are all positives, but it is your children that make us what we are. They are a privilege to work with and it is a pleasure to see them every day. They are a constant source of energy, optimism and fun. I must also thank our teaching and support staff who work tirelessly to help your child achieve their personal best. However well we do, we always know we can do better – and we commit to this.

Have a lovely summer holiday.

Yours sincerely



Stuart Edwards
Principal