

3 March 2026

Dear Parent/Carer

I would like to start by warmly welcoming you to the Midhurst Rother College community. We are delighted that your child has been allocated a place in our school and we look forward to them transitioning to us ready for September. I would like to thank you for placing your trust in us. We will do our very best for you and your child at all times.

Moving to secondary school is an exciting time. There is a new building, new friends and new teachers to get to know. We teach more subjects and we offer our students a wide range of educational visits and activities. There is a lot to look forward to.

I also know that moving from being the oldest in a primary school to being the youngest can present some worries. We will do all we can to make sure we support children and families who may have concerns – please let us know so that we can help. We want to ‘hit the ground running’ in September and that means being ready. We will visit almost primary schools over the coming weeks to find out about every child to make sure the right support is in place.

There are some things that we always expect of our students. The number 1 priority is very simple: students must **be kind – always**. We talk about this in every assembly, every week. We know that children and sometimes staff don’t get everything right, but we always expect kindness. We also expect our students to work hard. Lessons will be high pace, high challenge and it is likely there will be silent work as well as lots of opportunities for discussion in lessons. We will set homework for students and your child should expect to receive this from when they start in September.

Our school day from September starts at 8.25 and finishes at 3.05pm. We will offer a range of extra-curricular activities and clubs on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday each week. We will provide further information on this offer and give students the opportunity to choose and sign up in the summer term in readiness for September. Late buses will run for students who attend these clubs. Students will not be charged to travel on these buses, which enables access to clubs for all students, irrespective of family finances. This will be available for students who currently travel to school on the Local Authority buses.

The Grammar Stream

You may wish to consider whether your child would benefit from being a part of The Grammar Stream. This group is for those working beyond and/or at greater depth than age related expectation, who will be taught with a more in-depth approach from the start of their journey in Year 7 onwards until the end of Sixth Form, with membership of the Grammar Stream reviewed annually based on end of year assessments. One of our key aims of the Grammar Stream is to prepare students to competitively apply to the very best universities in the world. We will assess all students as part of the transition programme and then invite students to be part of it. More information is available here: [The Grammar Stream](#)

I will now turn to some more practical items that I would ask you to note and action as needed.

What you need to do now

The College is full and is over-subscribed – we are currently operating a waiting list. We would be grateful if you could please complete the attached acceptance form. Please note it will request that you provided us with a copy of your current council tax statement as proof of your address. WSCC ask all schools to undertake this address validation exercise on their intakes. Please can I ask that you prioritise completing this by 1 April 2026. If you fail to do so your place may be offered to another child. Thank you. To make this process simple, the form is online and can be accessed via this link: [School Place Acceptance for Midhurst Rother College 2026 – Fill in form](#)

The link can also be found on our website [Y6 Transition Letters](#). Please complete the form and email a copy (photo) of your council tax statement to MRC.info@mrc-academy.org. Should you no longer require your place please use this form to inform us of this. Alternatively, you can request a paper copy of the form by contacting Jayne.beesley@mrc-academy.org.

The Transition Process

At the beginning of the summer term, colleagues from the College will visit your child's school to introduce themselves in the classroom, enabling students and staff to get to know one another and giving everyone a head start for the new academic year. Teachers and the Head of Year will be able to learn about our new year group as a whole and about individuals, while students will have the opportunity to familiarise themselves with members of staff who will be responsible for their learning and wellbeing in the coming years. Our Director for Additional Educational Needs will also make visits to spend time with those students who may require support when they join in September.

We would like to invite all students to spend the day at Midhurst Rother College, on **Wednesday 1 July 2026**, the details of which will follow in later correspondence. During this Transition Day students take part in a range of fun but informative activities to help familiarise themselves with the College environment. This is part of a week of Transition events including a uniform event and an evening for Parents/Carers to attend a presentation about the College and the transition period and meet key staff. Our intention is that by the end of the day students and Parents/Carers will feel confident about the start of term in September. More information will be provided in our next communication.

We are very pleased that you have chosen Midhurst Rother College and look forward to providing your child with a platform from which they can reach their full potential and become part of what we think is a very special community. In the meantime, we wish our new students a very memorable and happy end to Year 6 at primary school.

Please keep in touch with Midhurst Rother College news and updates through our website- www.mrc-academy.org and do not hesitate to contact the College if you have any further questions.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Stuart Edwards', with a period at the end.

Stuart Edwards
Principal