

6 January 2026

Dear Parent/Carer,

RE: Year 7 Spring Term 1 Letter

Happy New Year! We hope you had a restful and enjoyable break.

We are incredibly proud of how hard Year 7 worked during their first term as they settled into secondary school life. Their effort, resilience, and enthusiasm have been fantastic to see, and they have already made a strong start to their journey with us.

In this letter I will be sharing some details of upcoming assessments, events, and parents evening. Your support at home remains invaluable, and we encourage you to continue discussing your child's learning with them, helping them to stay organised and maintain positive routines.

Tracking Point Assessment

Year 7 in class assessments for all subjects in the fortnight beginning 7 January 26

These assessments help KS3 students reflect on their progress and provide valuable opportunities to practice and prepare for future learning in a supportive, 'low stakes' environment. They give teachers an objective and comprehensive piece of work to judge progress and allow us to report to parents and carers with an accurate measure of their child's academic development.

These assessments cannot be 'failed'; they simply offer an indication of progress and attainment across different subjects for many, a source of encouragement, and for some, a motivation to commit to further effort and improvement.

Additional information and revision guidance can be found on the college website (<https://www.mrc-academy.org/curriculum/revision-resources>) at any time; this page provides useful ideas and strategies to support independent and effective revision by any child at any time.

We are also mindful that these assessments can create a degree of stress and anxiety. We do not want our students to feel overwhelmed. Please do contact your child's tutor for support and advice should this be the case.

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Face to Face Parents Evening

Face to Face Parents' Evening is a valuable opportunity to discuss your child's progress, achievements, and next steps with their teachers. It allows us to work together to ensure your child continues to thrive and reach their full potential. Please look out for a separate letter which will confirm the date and time, as well as provide details on when and how to book your appointments. Please note there might be a possible change to the date on our calendar, we will let you know when this process is ready.

Punctuality to Lessons & School

It is essential that students arrive promptly to each lesson to maximise learning time and minimise disruption. If a student is late to a lesson, they will be issued a lunchtime detention the following day.

In addition, if a student is late to school or lessons more than three times in a single week, they will receive an after-school detention, which will take place every Monday from 3:05 to 4:05pm. Please note that transport arrangements following after-school detentions are the responsibility of parents and carers, not the school.

We appreciate your support in reinforcing the importance of punctuality and helping your child develop strong habits that will benefit them throughout their education.

Attendance Matters

Here at Midhurst Rother College, we place great importance on excellent attendance and continue to aim for 96% or above for all students. When attendance drops below 95%, it becomes a concern, as it means less time in the classroom and fewer opportunities to engage with learning.



Consistent attendance is key to helping your child make steady progress, build strong relationships, and fully benefit from their education. To support your child's success, we kindly ask that they attend school every day.

Ensuring attendance at school is a parent/carer's legal obligation and we are keen to support parents with this, not least because of the huge amount of national data that proves the correlation between good attendance and academic progress.

If your child is unable to attend college, please notify us on 01730 812451 then select option 1 or via email: attendance@mrc-academy.org.

As always, punctuality will also continue to be monitored. Please can we ask parents to support us in encouraging good attendance and punctuality. More information or forms regarding attendance can be located on our website: <https://www.mrc-academy.org/information/attendance>

Homework

Homework plays a vital role in reinforcing classroom learning, developing independent study habits, and building time management skills. It allows students to revisit key concepts, deepen their understanding, and prepare for future lessons.

We are pleased to see many of our Year 7 students engaging positively with their homework tasks and showing real dedication to their studies.

To help students manage their workload effectively, we strongly encourage them to create a homework timetable. Breaking homework down into smaller, manageable chunks can make tasks feel less overwhelming and help maintain a healthy balance between school and home life.

A gentle reminder: if homework is missed, it is logged as a negative point on Arbor. Repeated missed homework may result in a lunchtime or after-school detention.

Group Chats / Social Media

I would like to remind you about group chats and social media use. Group chats can sometimes lead to issues such as social exclusion, inappropriate content, peer pressure, disrupted sleep, and conflicts that affect school life.

Please take a moment to speak with your child about their online activity and ensure they are only using age-appropriate platforms. As a school, we strongly discourage the creation of group chats within tutor groups or across year groups, as these can lead to issues that affect students wellbeing and school life.

For further support, you can visit the NSPCC's Online Safety Hub - [Keeping children safe online | NSPCC](#)

School Contacts

A reminder that your child's tutor is your primary point of contact and is best placed to support a wide range of matters, including wellbeing, and everyday concerns. They play a vital role in your child's day-to-day pastoral care and overall development throughout the school year. Their close, daily interaction with your child enables them to provide the most effective support and guidance.

Please see below for the contact details of our Year 7 team.

Assistant Principal	Mrs C Dickens	claire.dickens@mrc-academy.org
Head of Year	Mr A Lamb	ashley.lamb@mrc-academy.org
7A-KOA	Mr K Odedra	kaushal.odedra@mrc-academy.org
7A-HRS	Mrs H Reynolds	hannah.reynolds@mrc-academy.org

7K-CCR	Miss C Charpentier	cecile.charpentier@mrc-academy.org
7T-CEE	Mrs C Erskine	claudia.erskine@mrc-academy.org
7T-EHH	Miss E Haigh	erin.haigh@mrc-academy.org
7W-VSN	Mrs V Robert	vania.roberts@mrc-academy.org
7W-KMN	Mrs K Murray-Killen	katy.murray-killen@mrc-academy.org

Uniform

If you have any queries regarding uniform, the uniform policy is available to read on our website: <https://www.mrc-academy.org/information/uniform>. Please ensure that your child's belongings have their name in them so that they can be identified if they are lost and handed in to student reception.

A reminder that Nike Airforce trainers, hoodies or white socks are not permitted. Black school jumpers are available from our uniform suppliers.

Key Dates

6 January 2026	Term Starts
7-21 January 2026	TP1 Assessment Window
Date to be confirmed	Face-to-Face Parents Evening
13 February 2026	Inset Day – School closed for students
16-20 February 2026	Half Term
30 March 2026 – 10 April 2026	Easter Holiday
13 April 2026	Inset Day – School closed for students

We are looking forward to welcoming back our Year 7 for what will be another busy and engaging half term.

Yours sincerely,



Mr Ashley Lamb
Head of Year 7