



# Queen Mary's Grammar School

Headmaster: R J Langton, M A

15<sup>th</sup> July 2021

## QMGS Standards and Expectations from September 2021

Dear Parent/Guardian,

As we reach the end of term and the academic year, the Government have announced an ending of formal Covid-19 restrictions. When students return to school this September for the start of a new academic year we will take the opportunity to reset and reaffirm our school rules, our standards and our high expectations.

Our [school policies](#) can be found on our school website, in preparation for September some of the key information relating to our high standards and expectations are highlighted below:

### Uniform

Our uniform reflects the pride our students have as members of QMGS in and out of school. Full details of our key uniform requirements can be found on our [school website](#). The key requirements are outlined below:

Item	Requirements
School blazer with badge	QMGS Evolution Blazer
School tie	QMGS School tie
Trousers – grey	Trutex flat front trousers
Pullover – grey, badged	QMGS badged pullover
School Scarf	Optional
Shirt	White
Socks	Plain medium grey
Coat	Plain dark colour, i.e. black, navy/dark blue, dark grey. Single colour, no stripes or logos and of sufficient length to cover the blazer
Shoes	Black polished leather centre lacing/slip on. No boots
Turbans/head covering	Colour must be consistent with school uniform


### Coats

Pupil's need to bring coats to school in the colder months for use before school, break, lunch and after school. Knowing that coats can be costly it is important that they comply with the school rules listed above. Once in school coats must be put in the students' lockers and not worn in the school building or kept in the classroom.

### Shoes

Shoes should be black, polished leather. As general guidance, QMGS considers suitable footwear to be smart, professional and of a more traditional style. Please see the illustration overleaf of an exemplar style of shoe:



Queen Mary's Grammar School, Sutton Road, Walsall, West Midlands, WS1 2PG  
01922 720696 [www.qmgs.org](http://www.qmgs.org) . [enquiries@qmgs.walsall.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@qmgs.walsall.sch.uk)  @qmgs1554  
Part of the Mercian Trust, a charitable company, limited by guarantee.  
Registered in England and Wales No 07611347  
Registered Office: Mercian House, Sutton Road, Walsall, WS1 2PG



Black trainers, hybrid versions, boots, demi-boots or canvas footwear are not acceptable for school. These often have a single panelled sole with wide lacing and sometimes display a logo or brand name. In a similar fashion to school coats we encourage parents to buy the correct footwear for the start of term to avoid unnecessary expense.

### **Trainers**

We allow students on the school field at break/lunch if conditions allow. However, if they wish to use the field, as has always been the case, trainers must be worn. This means students should change into their trainers to go on the field and change back to school shoes once they are off the field. If students do not have the correct footwear they will not be permitted on the field.

### **Hair/Head Coverings**

As a reminder, pupils must maintain high standards of appearance. Hair must be worn in a simple style and extreme styles or colours are not considered appropriate. There are to be no tram lines/shaved lines cut into the hair. There are to be no stark differences in the grade of cut, i.e. any fades should be gradual and subtle.

Headbands are not allowed. Sikh students may wear a turban but it must be consistent with school colours. The final decision as to whether a students' appearance is appropriate or not rests with the Headmaster.

### **Jewellery**

For years 7-11, no jewellery is allowed except for a watch. Sikh students may wear a Kara bangle. Piercings are not permitted.

### **Bags**

From September, all students will be expected to put their school bags in their lockers as soon as they arrive at school. They then remove the books they need for form, period 1 and period 2. These are then replaced and other books taken out for P3 and P4. At lunch these books are returned to their lockers and the remaining books obtained for the afternoon lessons. From the start of the new term, the students will not be studying in one zone (assuming there are no further restrictions). Not having bags carried by pupils allows for a safer and easier flow around the school as well as in practical environments such as Science, DT, Art, etc.

### **Mobile Phones and headphones**

Once pupils arrive at school all phones must be switched off and stored away. Headphones too are not allowed to be used whilst on the school site. The school accepts no responsibility for loss, theft or damage of any electronic devices. The only time a mobile phone or headphones should be used is with the specific instruction and authorisation of a member of staff, e.g. when completing an online quiz, further research, ICT work, etc.



## Queen Mary's Grammar School

Headmaster: R J Langton, M A

If students are seen with their phones/device or headphones, they will be confiscated and passed to a member of the SLT for the day and only released for collection at reception at the end of the day. Repeated offences will lead to increasing sanctions.

### **Equipment**

We expect that students will come to school fully equipped for each of their lessons. They will need a pencil case with a pencil, rubber, ruler, pencil sharpener, protractor, black and green biro plus a spare. Colouring pencils are useful for certain subjects as well.

Teachers will inform pupils of any subject specific equipment they may need. Failure to come properly equipped will result in a behaviour point initially and if persistent will attract a further sanction.

### **Sports Kit**

Due to Covid-19 restrictions we adopted a more flexible approach with regard to the wearing of sports kit in school. With the Government ending restrictions from September 2021 in schools, students will be expected in full school uniform every day except for the day they have games in the afternoon. On that day they are to wear sports kit for the whole day whilst in school. For confirmation, these are the relevant days that each year group will wear sports kit for the entirety of the day:

1. Year 10 - Monday
2. Year 9 - Tuesday
3. Years 11, 12 and 13 - Wednesday
4. Year 8 - Thursday
5. Year 7 - Friday

Pupils must come in full school uniform on the days when they have PE or extra-curricular sports activities and get changed into their sports kit whilst at school.

On the days that pupils are in their sports kit they should attend with their full tracksuits and these should not be removed during the day unless authorised by a teacher. In the summer time, for those students wearing cricket kit, on their games days they must wear a blazer into school which should only be removed if authorised by a teacher.

### **Parent App**

Parent App is used to inform parents of their child's attendance, behaviour and achievement points, school report, general messages, term dates, pupils timetable and also allows parents to update their contact details so that the school has the most up to date information. If you have not yet signed up or are having difficulties in doing so, please contact the school.

### **Punctuality**

We will be returning back to original school times from September 2021. The school day will begin at 8.45am for all year groups from Year 7-11. We appreciate parents support this year with the staggered start times which ensured the safety of all year group bubbles. From September please ensure your

son attends school punctually and is onsite ready for registration every morning by 8.40am. Students arriving after the final bell, at 8.45am, will need to sign the late book at reception explaining the reason of their lateness.

We understand that our students arrive to school from across the borough and beyond by various means of transport and appreciate that this can at times be challenging. However, we take a firm stance with repeated lateness as this will negatively affect a pupils education and punctuality is a key discipline in life. Punctuality is monitored by Head of Year who will issue relevant sanctions and contact parents where there is a concern.

At the end of the school day pupils must not remain on the school site after 4pm unless they are involved in an organised activity arranged and supervised by member of staff.

### **Attendance**

School attendance is a legal requirement; more so any absence from school will inevitably impact a child's ability to learn and their resulting academic performance. All pupils should aim to attend school 100% of the time. Please be mindful of the following points:

- Please refer to the '[Guidance on infection control in schools](#)' produced by the Public Health Agency if you are unsure as to whether your child is fit to attend school or not.
- Parents must notify school at the earliest possible time i.e. before 8.45 a.m. each morning of an absence. This could be done by either phoning the school, leaving a message on the absence line or by emailing absences at [absences@gmgs.walsall.sch.uk](mailto:absences@gmgs.walsall.sch.uk)
- Parents must clearly state the pupil's name, form and nature of absence.
- Medical appointments should be arranged outside of school time wherever possible.
- The school must be notified a minimum of 3 days in advance of any medical appointment that have been made.
- Attendance monitors will make daily calls if a child is marked absent without a valid reason.
- A pupil returning back to school after an absence period must bring in a letter from parents, handed to the Form tutor. This letter should give all the necessary detail of the absence with any medical evidence, appointment letters, etc. also provided. If a pupil returns to school without a written explanation of their absence, then the absence will become unauthorised and marked as such on the register.
- Daily and overall attendance can be monitored by parents using the SIMS Parent App.
- It is the pupil's responsibility to catch up on the class work missed and/or submit any work which was due in their absence.

Attendance and punctuality is monitored on a regular basis. Appropriate levels of challenge and support will be implemented where there are any patterns of absence that gives cause for concern. If a child's attendance falls below 90% then they are classed as being persistently absent and in turn the school will inform and liaise with the Local Authority and their Education Welfare Officer. The Education Welfare Officer can and will issue legal proceedings where parents aren't meeting their legal obligation to ensure their child attends school.



## Queen Mary's Grammar School

Headmaster: R J Langton, M A

### Leave of absence

The law states that families do not have the right to take children out of school during term time for holidays or other activities. Permission for absences will only be granted when there are exceptional circumstances at the discretion of the Headmaster. Parents must make a formal request for leave of absence if they intend their child to be absent from school which is not related to the pupil's illness or medical needs. Please see the 'Religious Observance' form related to published religious festivals which is available here: <https://qmg.walsall.sch.uk/consent-forms/>

Thank you for taking the time to read through some of the key standards and expectations that we will be very much focussing on at the start of the new academic year. We hope that everyone at QMGS enjoys a well-earned break and rest. We look forward to September and getting the beating heart of the school back up and running without restrictions and constraints.

Yours Faithfully

Mr T.Brown

Assistant Headteacher  
Behaviour and Discipline

Queen Mary's Grammar School.