

## Queen Mary's Grammar School

Headmaster: R J Langton, M A

## **Dear Parents**

## **Lockers from September 2025**

For many years the school has provided compulsory lockers for students. During that time the school has grown considerably and the pressures on the school site, together with the increasing cost of maintaining this facility, is something we can no longer endure.

From September we will be changing how we operate so that lockers become optional: those students who wish to continue using one may do so, but the many students who do not require a locker will not be forced to use one.

We will be working with Rent My Locker (RML) to provide a locker facility to those students who wish to have one. There is a charge of £32 per year for this facility. All aspects of coordinating the lockers are dealt with by Rent My Locker and a letter from them explaining the process is attached.

In order to carry their school equipment students are expected to have a small school bag which they will take to lessons. We recommend a small back-pack of approximately 20litres; this should be sufficient for the equipment and books they need during a day whilst still being small enough to fit discretely under their chair in the classroom.

We also believe this change will assist with our students' organisation and we encourage them to prepare their school bag the night before. We ask that parents help with this and encourage students to only carry what they need for each day rather than every book they own!

On PE days students are expected to bring their PE kit within this small bag – the PE kit is small and should fit without a problem. On games days students already come to school in kit and tracksuits so there should be minimal additional equipment required.

We recognise that some students are heavily involved in enrichment activities before and after school and so will regularly bring additional items – we encourage these students to rent a locker.

We understand that this is an additional cost for parents, the school remains willing to support parents of pupil premium students with this cost if you contact us. Similarly students in the sixth-form who are eligible could use part of their bursary towards this cost. Please visit our <u>avenues of support</u> page for more information.

We understand that this is a change to the way the school has operated for many years. However we are no longer able to sustain the cost of providing lockers when we know a large majority are not used and left empty. This model is used widely by other schools including others in the Mercian Trust where it works very successfully.

R J Langton Headmaster



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