

22<sup>nd</sup> August 2025

Y/4aPupil/Pupil/Letters/Start of Year letters/Yr 7 beginning of  
year letter Aug 25  
HRO/HoY/File

Dear Parent(s) and Carer(s)

I would like to offer our students an early welcome back and I hope you are all managing to find time to relax and enjoy the summer. We are very much looking forward to welcoming your child into our New Year 7 group on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> September. As mentioned during the summer term we will have a staggered start to the year. This approach is consistent with all secondary schools in Nova Education Trust and it enables induction activities for all year groups that support a very strong year ahead. Consequently, the start dates after the summer break are:-

Year Groups	Start Date
7 and 11	Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> September
Year 8, 9, 10, 12 and 13	Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September

### Making a Great Start to The Year

Students have the best chance of success when we work together as a team. I ask that you support your child to make a great start to the term on the very first day. I thank you in advance for reminding your child that:

- Students should be lined up for tutor set at 8:25 am and so realistically students should be in school by 8:20 am.
- Students are expected to be fully equipped for lessons. A pencil case containing two blue or black pens, two pencils, a ruler, an eraser and a calculator are crucial for successful learning at Toot Hill School.
- We expect students to enter the school site wearing the full school uniform, including wearing a blazer and a tie.
- All new school skirts should be pleated, but they do not require a school logo.
- Hoodies are not permitted in school.
- No jewellery, other than watches, should be worn to school.
- No electronic items are permitted in school.
- Timetable planning means that no students will have to wear PE kit to school as students will be able to change in school for PE/Games lessons.

As ever, if you are finding difficulties in sourcing uniform for your child, please contact the school as we are keen to help.

## **Nut-Free School**

We are proud to be a nut-free school to protect both students and staff. We have seen a recent increase in the food containing nuts being brought into school by students. Please can I ask for your vigilance in this matter as the most serious risk to allergic children and staff comes from nuts, which can cause severe, life threatening 'anaphylactic' reactions within seconds.

Our "Nut-Free Policy" means that the following items should not be brought into school:

- Packs of nuts
- Peanut Butter and Nutella sandwiches
- Fruit and cereal bars that contain nuts
- Sesame seed rolls (children allergic to nuts may also have a severe reaction to sesame)
- Hummus or houmous as it contains tahini which is made from sesame
- Pesto which contains nuts
- Cakes made with nuts
- Pastries covered in almonds – for example almond croissants
- Any home cooked meals for packed lunches that are made from nuts

What types of food are nuts?

- Almonds
- Cashew Nuts
- Hazelnuts
- Pistachios
- Walnuts
- Brazil nuts
- Nut Oils
- Peanuts

### **I wanted to re-confirm the arrangements for Year 7 on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2025:**

**Arrival:** Students should arrive via the bus park, accessed via Tithby Road or the gate on the front of school. Students will be directed to the school field where they will meet their tutor. Students should be at school for **8.25am** to start the school day.

#### **Dress Code:**

Year 7 students will be in full school uniform on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> September.

#### **Equipment:**

Students will need their pencil case and they will be provided with their Timetable.

#### **Refreshments:**

Thank you for your support in completing the student consent form which was found on the initial transition page. During the day, your child will have their finger print taken which will enable them to access the cashless catering system. Personal log in details relating to the online payment facility will be shared with you.

**In a change to usual arrangements, our caterers have confirmed that they will provide a meal for all year 7's on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> September, free of charge.**

#### **Departure:**

Students will be dismissed at 3pm through the Bus Park or Front of School gates.

**Please see below for an outline of the day:**

<b>Arrival (School starts at 8:25am)</b>	
Tutor Time	Tutor Meet and Greet
Period 1	Head of Year Address, supporting your transition to Toot Hill School
Break	
Period 2	Planning for the year ahead, getting to know the Tutor
Period 3	Assembly with Dr Eardley
Period 4: Lunch – Free Dinner provided for all year 7 students on 1 <sup>st</sup> September	
Period 5 to Period 7	Follow Curriculum Timetable
<b>Departure (School finishes at 3:00pm)</b>	

I very much look forward to welcoming your child to Toot Hill School in September.

Yours sincerely,



Dr C Eardley  
Head of School