

15 May 2026



Dear parents and carers,

When we return in September, our school will be Mercia Northridge School and will formally be part of Mercia Learning Trust.

I would like to thank you for the support you have shown as we plan for these changes, and for the positivity and enthusiasm we have seen across our school community.

We have been working hard to prepare for the changes that will come as part of this transition. We are sharing this information now to give you plenty of time to get ready for September.

Timing of the school day

From September, the school day will change.

Pupils in Years 7 to 10 will attend from 8.30am to 3.15pm. This is an extra 15 minutes at the end of the day. We will use this time for daily reading. Reading is an important life skill and plays a key role in success at GCSE.

Year 11 pupils will attend until 4pm Monday to Thursday, and until 3.15pm on Fridays. This extra time will be used for supported revision in key subjects. This approach works well in other Mercia Learning Trust secondary schools and will help Year 11 pupils prepare for their exams.

Uniform

We will be changing the uniform from September. Existing Chaucer School blazers and ties will no longer be part of the school uniform.

I am pleased to confirm that Mercia Learning Trust will purchase the new blazer for all pupils in current Year 7-9. New Year 7 pupils joining us in September will need to buy the uniform themselves. Current Year 10 pupils will not need to wear a blazer.

Supplier information will be communicated to families as soon as possible. The supplier will stock blazers, ties and PE shirts.

Below are the uniform expectations from September.

Pupils in Year 7-10

Compulsory:

- New Mercia Northridge School blazer
- New Mercia Northridge School tie
- Formal plain white collared shirt
- Formal black trousers or skirt that finishes below the knee
- Formal black shoes
- Plain black socks

Optional:

- Plain navy V-neck jumper with no writing or logo, to be worn under the blazer

Chaucer School, Wordsworth Ave, Sheffield, S5 8NH

Headteacher : Joanna Crewe

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Compulsory PE kit:

- New Mercia Northridge School PE shirt
- Plain black shorts, tracksuit bottoms or leggings, with no large logos or writing
- Trainers suitable for sports, with appropriate grip and cushioning

Pupils in Year 11

Compulsory:

- White shirt
- Black trousers or skirt
- Formal black shoes
- New Mercia Northridge School tie

Optional:

- New Mercia Northridge School blazer
- A navy V-neck jumper

PE kit:

- Pupils can continue to wear their current PE kit.

Jackets and coats

Pupils can wear a coat or a jacket to school over their blazer. These need to be removed and carried or in bags when entering the buildings.

Cultural dress

- Headscarves worn for cultural reasons must be plain black, and must be worn with the shirt, tie and blazer
- Full face covering is not acceptable
- Floor length black skirts are acceptable

Hair, jewellery and appearance

- Hair colour must be suitable for school - extreme or unnatural colours are not permitted
- Make-up, if worn, must be discreet
- False nails or coloured nail polish are not allowed
- Permitted jewellery includes one pair of discreet ear studs (silver or gold) and a watch (not a smart watch)
- Fashion accessories such as hats, caps, scarves, gloves, ornamental belts, visible neck chains and smart watches are not permitted
- Headbands or hair ties must be plain black with no adornment
- No nose studs

Equipment

We expect pupils to arrive at school with the following:

- Bag
- PE kit on PE days
- Reading book
- Pencil case containing:
 - Black pen
 - Purple pen
 - Pencil
 - Highlighter
 - Ruler
 - Rubber
 - Scientific calculator
 - Maths protractor and compasses

A reminder that mobile phones are not allowed in school.

We are very proud of the changes we are making for your child. We want pupils to look smart and feel proud to be part of Mercia Learning Trust. Our new uniform shows the high expectations we have for every pupil and their future.

We are sharing this information now to give you plenty of time to get ready for September. We will share more updates soon, but these are the main changes for you to plan for.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Joanna Crewe', written in black ink on a light background.

Joanna Crewe
Headteacher



Mercia
Northridge School

Acceptable footwear examples



Unacceptable footwear examples (trainers, boots, sandals, open toe shoes, ballet pumps with added decoration)

