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Rowhill School – End of Year Update

Dear Parents/Carers,

As we come to the end of the school year, we are excited about our new curriculum and wider school developments, which have been shared with pupils over the last term. We would like to update you on a few key points:

INSET Day

Our final INSET day is **15 July 2026**. Staff will be preparing classrooms for September, allowing us to focus on supporting pupils' transition into their new classes and teachers before the end of term. We hope this helps reduce any anxiety about returning after the summer.

Mobile Phones

You may have seen in the news that schools are moving towards being phone-free, with greater expectations from Ofsted. At Rowhill, we have carefully reviewed our current system with pupils. For some children, particularly those with autism, handing phones into a central location can cause significant stress and uncertainty.

From September, each classroom will have a secure safe. Pupils will place their phones in the safe at the start of the day and collect them before going home. This keeps phones safely nearby, reduces anxiety, and ensures they are not used during the school day.

If a phone is not handed in and is seen by staff, parents will be asked to collect it. A phone ban may then be issued, meaning the device cannot be brought into school at all. Continued failure to follow this system will be managed through school behaviour procedures.

We expect this change to have a positive impact on focus, behaviour and wellbeing, as well as reduce concerns many families have raised about phone use.

Uniform

We are aware that uniform expectations have become more relaxed over the past year. After speaking with pupils, it is clear that comfort and sensory needs are key concerns, particularly around fabrics and fit.

Uniform remains important in creating a sense of belonging, pride and unity within our school. We have therefore agreed that pupils will play a key role in designing a **new, more comfortable uniform**, including a new logo. This work will begin in the autumn term.

We understand many families will be purchasing uniform over the summer. Please be reassured that any future changes will be introduced gradually, with a clear crossover period so there is no need to replace items immediately.

For September, we have agreed a flexible approach to support comfort while maintaining standards:

- Top half: school jumper or fleece, or a plain royal blue jumper (no logo required)
- Bottom half: black or grey trousers, shorts, leggings, sports leggings or tracksuit bottoms (no jeans)
- ACP clothing that is suitable for a work environment, not revealing, no offensive logo's, images or slogans on clothing, shoes should not be open backed or toed.

We appreciate your support in helping all pupils return to a clear and consistent uniform standard.

School Day (from September) for Primary & Secondary

- Monday–Thursday: **8:50am – 2:30pm**
- Friday: **8:50am – 2:00pm**

We are working with the Local Authority to stagger transport from **2:30pm** to reduce congestion at the school gate.

After-school activities will run until **2:55pm**, in line with current taxi times. Thank you to parents who have already told us they need one of the latest collection times due to work commitments, we are factoring this into transport planning, although arrangements may take some time to fully settle.

If you need your child to be on one of the latest taxi's due to work commitments, please contact the school office.

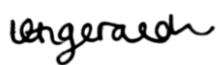
Please note there will be **no later collection on Fridays**. We will aim to get all pupils home quickly to avoid heavy traffic on Main Road, with priority given to those travelling the furthest.

End of Year Key Dates

- 2 July – Primary to Secondary Transition Day (new pupils)
- 3 July – Sports Day
- 9 July – Primary to secondary Transition (all Yr.6 to 7)
- 13 July Prize giving 1.30pm start
- 14 July – Parents Evening
- 15 July – INSET Day
- 16 July – Faversham Swimming Trip
- 17 July – Summer Fete
- 21 July – Last day (1:30pm finish)

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,



Nathalie Fitzgerald

**Headteacher
Rowhill School**