

Dear Parents and Carers

Re: Uniform updates from September 2026

I am writing to inform you of some updates to our Hailsham Academy uniform from September 2026.

New government guidance and MARK Education Trust approach

The proposed Children's Wellbeing and Schools Bill, due to come into force in September 2026, requires all schools to review the number of branded items included in their uniform policy. Over the past year, our trust has taken this opportunity to carry out a full review of uniform expectations across all our schools, considering local needs as well as the changing demands of the modern working world. Our priority throughout has been to ensure that our uniform remains affordable, accessible and sustainable, while continuing to reflect our high standards, expectations and core values.

Following this consultation, MARK Education Trust has decided that, **from September 2026, blazers will no longer be a compulsory item within our uniform policies**. As the blazer is currently the most expensive item of uniform, removing this requirement will help ease financial pressure on families. **In its place, it will be compulsory for students to wear the more cost-effective school jumper.**

Updated Hailsham Academy branded items

From **September 2026**, the following items will also be introduced to reflect **Hailsham Academy** branding, replacing the previous Hailsham Community College logo and design. Images of the new items can be found on the second page.

- Jumper
- Skirt
- PE top
- School tie (same design for all students in Years 7 - 11)
- PE ¼ zip (optional item)

The only items that will no longer be permitted from September 2026 are the current year group ties.

A new **Hailsham Academy tie** has been designed, with **one design for all year groups**. To ensure that there is no financial impact on families due to the change to the tie requirements, **Hailsham Academy will fund the cost of the new tie for all current Year 7 - 10 students**. These will be distributed by the end of Term 6. We will also work with the students who currently wear a unique tie to promote their role in school, and develop an alternative approach for September.

Therefore, from September, current students can either:

1. Continue to wear their **existing v-neck, charcoal grey school jumper**, in which case **a blazer is not required**
2. Wear our **new Hailsham Academy jumper**, in which case **a blazer is not required**
3. If they **do not have a current or new school jumper**, **continue to wear a blazer** with their shirt and tie

Current students can continue to wear their current HCC skirt and HCC PE top should they wish to do so, until it needs replacing, at which point our new Hailsham Academy skirt and Hailsham Academy PE top will need to be purchased.

Black tailored trousers, black socks and flat, polishable plain black footwear will remain part of our policy for all students.

A summary of all branded uniform updates and requirements are set out in the table on the final page.

Uniform is purchased via the [Monkhouse website](#). Monkhouse will be reducing the cost of some of the items that we are discontinuing - please check the Monkhouse website for further information. Please note that some existing items may have low stock or be unavailable while the supply transition takes place over the next couple of months. We encourage parents to donate items of unwanted uniform to the [Hailsham Family Hub](#).

If you have any questions regarding the updates to our uniform from September 2026, please contact me in the first instance via email: hcc@hccat.net.

An updated uniform and equipment policy to include all uniform items will be sent out in Term 6.

Thank you for noting these changes and for your ongoing support.

Yours sincerely,

Natalie Chamberlain
Headteacher – Secondary Phase

New style jumper with new tie and new skirt



New style PE top



New style optional ¼ zip PE top



Hailsham Academy branded uniform changes from September 2026:

Existing students from September 2026	
Blazer	Existing blazers are permitted but are no longer compulsory if the student is wearing either their current school jumper or the new style branded jumper. If a student does not have a school jumper from September 2026, they will be expected to continue wearing their blazer.
Jumper (compulsory item)	All students are permitted to wear the new style Hailsham Academy jumper with piping and logo, however existing school jumpers are still permitted. New or replacement jumpers to be the new Hailsham Academy style.
Tie (compulsory item)	New Hailsham Academy tie to be worn by all students. Hailsham Academy will be funding the cost of the new tie for all existing students; these will be distributed by the end of Term 6.
Skirt (compulsory as part of the skirt uniform)	All students are permitted to wear the new style Hailsham Academy tartan skirt, however existing school skirts are still permitted. New or replacement skirts to be the new Hailsham Academy style.
PE top (compulsory item)	All students are permitted to wear the new style Hailsham Academy PE top with new logo, however existing PE tops are still permitted. New or replacement PE tops to be the new Hailsham Academy style with new logo.
¼ zip PE top (optional item)	New style Hailsham Academy ¼ zip PE top with new logo is available from September 2026 as an optional item. A plain black sweatshirt is also permitted.

New students joining in September 2026	
Blazer	Blazers are no longer an item in our uniform policy.
Jumper (compulsory item)	New style Hailsham Academy black jumper with coloured piping and logo only from September 2026.
Tie (compulsory item)	Hailsham Academy tie to be worn from September 2026*. *Year 7 students joining in September 2026 will be required to purchase the new tie as part of their uniform.
Skirt (compulsory as part of the skirt uniform)	New style Hailsham Academy tartan pleated skirt only from September 2026.
PE top (compulsory item)	New style Hailsham Academy PE top with logo only from September 2026.
¼ zip PE top (optional item)	New style Hailsham Academy ¼ zip PE top with logo is available from September 2026 as an optional item. A plain black sweatshirt is also permitted.