St Mark's Church of England Academy
Acacia Road, Mitcham, CR4 1SF
020 8648 6627
school@stmarks.anthemtrust.uk
www.stmarksacademy.com
Headteacher: Aimee Gallagher

A community of transformation founded on love, hope & trust

16 October 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

RE: EXPECTATIONS- UNIFORM, DETENTIONS AND BEHAVIOUR

As we continue to maintain the high standards expected of our students, I am writing to remind families of our school's expectations in relation to following; Uniform, Detentions and the New Report System.

Uniform:
A consistent and professional appearance helps to foster a positive learning environment and ensures that all students are ready to learn. We appreciate your support in helping us maintain these standards.

In line with government guidance, three of these items can be school branded as well as a school tie. The following items form part of our compulsory school uniform and must be worn by all students:

- St Marks burgundy blazer (branded school blazer only)
- St Marks year group tie
- St Marks PE top (branded school PE top only)
- St Marks PE trousers (branded school PE trousers only)

These St Marks branded items are mandatory and must be worn at all times when required without exception. No alternative garments or substitutes are acceptable. If an item needs replacing, families should ensure that the correct school-branded replacement is purchased as soon as possible.

St Mark's policy states that students should be in the correct uniform at all times. For all other uniform the expectations are that students are in a white shirt, with their year group tie, black/grey trousers (professional, loose fitted, and straight cut – **no leggings or flares are permitted**), black/grey socks and black professionally styled shoes. If students need an additional layer, then a St Marks jumper may be worn and/or an unbranded coat/jacket (while outside of the building).

For PE, students must also wear plain black/grey socks with any sport appropriate trainer (no Crocs, Uggs or other form of footwear are permitted). If students need an additional layer, then there is an optional St Marks quarter-zip which is available to purchase. No other form of jumper/hoodie can be worn. No form of designer or high fashion clothing or leggings can be worn at any time.

More specific details can be found here: https://www.stmarks.anthemtrust.uk/info-and-news/school-uniform

We ask that parents and carers check uniform regularly to ensure that students arrive at school dressed appropriately each day. Students who do not meet our uniform expectations may be required to rectify the issue before attending lessons and may be subject to the school's uniform procedures.

A gentle reminder that sharp objects or metal objects such as metal afro combs are not permitted.

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The Diocese of Southwark
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We are grateful for your continued support in upholding our high expectations and helping our students take pride in their appearance and their school community.

Students who have consistently met standards around the academy will be rewarded and further options to praise these high standards are being explored with some students gaining the opportunity for uniform centred prizes in our new rewards metrics.

Detentions:

As you are all aware, we aim to run after school detentions on the same day which they are issued to students. We do this because it enables us to create a culture of recurring forgiveness in which students learn from mistakes that they make on the same day and then come in the following day with a completely clean slate. This is essential for actions and consequences being completed in a timely manner.

Communication regarding detentions will be made through our school communication system, MCAS, on the same day the detention is issued. This will enable us to keep parents informed about any detentions and provide an opportunity for dialogue between home and school. This message is sent at 12:45pm to allow families to make arrangements for student collection if needed.

We kindly request your support in reinforcing the importance of positive behaviour and the consequences of negative actions with your child. By working together, we can create a supportive and productive learning environment that allows all pupils to thrive.

As a reminder, **students cannot be excused from detentions**. On rare occasions, **where proof of a medical appointment or an after-school commitment is provided,** the student will be permitted to complete their detention the following day.

Reports:

We are excited to introduce our new Student Behaviour Report System, designed to give you clearer, more timely updates on your child's progress, engagement and conduct at school.

This new system will replace our previous reporting method. Our goal is to strengthen the partnership between home and school, ensuring we can celebrate your child's successes and address any challenges in a timely fashion.

If your child is on a report either your child's coach or progress leader will be in contact with you. You can view daily updates when you sign the report each day. The reports will focus on two main areas:

- **Positive Recognition:** Tracking house points, merits, and instances where your child goes above and beyond in academic effort.
- **Constructive Support:** Highlighting areas where your child may need reminders regarding focus, homework completion, or punctuality, allowing us to intervene early.

Thank you for your continued support for our vision of Transformation for All and being consistent in ensuring that we have high expectations for all of our students.

Yours faithfully,

Miss N Stewart
Vice Principal for Attitudes to Behaviour and Safeguarding (DSL).