THE MOUNTBATTEN SCHOOL

Year 7 Parents' Booklet

2026-2027

THE MOUNTBATTEN SCHOOL

Welcome from Mrs McIlroy and Mr Cox

It is a great pleasure welcoming you as parents and carers to The Mountbatten School. Our school is unique. It is a claim that we make confidently. Founded in 1969 with an ethos shaped and guided by one of the twentieth century's greatest historical figures, the 1st Earl Mountbatten of Burma, your child is joining a School with an enviable reputation.



The foundations of our excellence were laid down long before any of us joined The Mountbatten School family; they were laid down by Earl Mountbatten and generations of former students have been inspired by his expectations for excellence.

Ours is a 21st century school built on traditional values, delivering a contemporary and dynamic curriculum. As an international school, our students' learning is rich in cultural diversity and global context. Our music academy adds an outstanding dimension to the cultural life of our school with a high proportion of students taking part in extra-curricular music activities. The sports ethos focuses on personal health, fitness and well-being, in addition to encouraging sports competition and promoting team spirit. Our science academy provides STEM opportunities and helps prepare children for a career of fulfilment. Our impressive academic results, allied to the numbers of students who eventually go on to the great universities, is testimony to the School's success – former students excelling in all walks of life – the professions, the arts, science, engineering and as entrepreneurs. We hope you encourage your child to fully embrace these opportunities.

At The Mountbatten School, every student matters. We want each to become confident, independent, adaptable and resilient learners, so each is well-placed to adapt to life and, eventually, the world of work.

With these great opportunities come important responsibilities. In choosing The Mountbatten School for your child, you will already be aware of the high expectations we place on all our students. We expect good behaviour at all times, good manners, hard work and respect for everyone in our community.

We have a simple school motto: We Care, We Respect, We Achieve. Working together, let's build a fantastic future for us all.

Heather McIlroy
Chief Executive, Personal Best Education Trust

Christopher Cox
Headteacher

INTRODUCING THE HEAD OF YEAR 7

Welcome from Mr Rice

Hello and welcome to Mountbatten

In September 2026, your child will be moving to The Mountbatten School. I am very pleased that you have chosen this school and I look forward to meeting and working with you.

I recognise that starting at such a large secondary school can be daunting for any student. Some may be joining us from a very small primary school. Some may even be the only student joining us from their previous school. Some may know lots of other students. Others may know no one. My job as Head of Year is to support each student during their first year and make sure that they get on well with others and are able to do their very best in lessons.

All Year 7 students should be on site, in school uniform, by 10.00am on Wednesday 2 September. Other year groups will be in school from Thursday 3 September. On their first day, students will enter and leave the school by the main entrance.

We will meet together as a year group in the School Hall. After our welcome assembly, students will be with their form tutors who will give them their Student Organisers and school timetable. After lunch, students will return to their form tutors before attending the extracurricular clubs fair, where they can find out more about the wide range of activities available.

For the first week, prefects will help the Year 7 students get from lesson to lesson. They will also help with any other problems.



Ian Rice
Head of Year 7





THE SCHOOL DAY

Timings

The school day is organised into six lessons, some of which may be 'double' lessons. The timings of the day are as follows:

8.35am Arrival in school
8.40am Reg then Tutor Period
9.00am Period 1
9.50am Period 2
10.40am **Morning Break**
11.15am Period 3
12.05pm Period 4
12.55pm **Afternoon Break**
1.30pm Period 5
2.20pm Period 6
3.10pm End of School

Lessons

There are 30 lessons each week. In Year 7, students have the following number of lessons in each subject:

English – 5
Mathematics – 5
Science – 4
Physical Education – 2

The remaining 14 lessons comprise of:
RSHE
Art
Drama
Foreign Languages
Geography
History
Music
Religious Studies
Technology and Computing

Equipment

Students will need their PE kit (when they have PE) and a school bag with a pencil case containing at least two black pens, one green pen, pencils, rubber, a ruler, a maths set and a scientific calculator. Scissors will be provided by teachers, if required, and so students should not bring them to school.

Mobile Phones

From September 2026, our school will become a smartphone/device-free environment in line with the national statutory guidance that states *Schools are to be Mobile Phone Free*. This positive step is designed to support learning, wellbeing and safety for all students.

Research continues to show that reducing smartphone use during the school day improves concentration, behaviour and social interaction. Schools that have introduced smartphone-free policies have reported calmer corridors, improved focus in lessons and stronger face-to-face friendships among students. By encouraging students to disconnect from social media and constant notifications during the day, we are helping them to build healthy habits that extend beyond school hours.

From September, smartphones, smartwatches and all internet-enabled devices will not be permitted on the school site and will be classified as prohibited items. Any student found with these devices will be sanctioned in accordance with our behaviour policy.

Students who need a phone for travel arrangements may bring one of the three approved "brick phones" listed on our website. These simple devices are not internet-enabled and do not include cameras, making them a much safer option for young people. Brick phones allow parents and carers to stay in contact with their children on the commute to and from school, while significantly lowering safeguarding risks linked to social media, online bullying, inappropriate content and distraction from learning.

Brick phones should be switched off and stored securely in school bags during the day, not carried in pockets or blazers. Standalone trackers can be placed in students' bags to give parental reassurance if required.



SCHOOL UNIFORM

Wear uniform with pride

Branded items

- Blazer - Navy with school badge (From Skoolkit or Direct4logos).
- School tie – New tie with Mountbatten logo (From Skoolkit or Direct4logos).
- Skirt - Navy, plain knee-length skirt - Charleston or Davenport style (From Skoolkit or Direct4logos).

Generic items

- Trousers - Black, straight-legged trousers worn on the waist. Trousers should be sufficiently loose and not tight fitting or skinny fit (jeans, cords and similar are not acceptable). Knee Length Shorts may be worn from 1 May to 30 September.
- Jumper – This is optional and can be worn in addition to the blazer (navy, v-neck, plain knit pullover). Jumpers must NOT be worn instead of a blazer. Round neck jumpers and hooded jumpers are not acceptable. If the weather is cold, coats should be worn.
- Shirt - Plain white, not patterned or fashionably baggy, tucked in, top button done up.
- Shoes - Plain black, polishable leather. See checklist below:
  - Plain black, polishable leather
  - Business-like - would look smart with a suit
  - Laces must be entirely black
  - Low heel or flat

  Not acceptable:
  - Canvas
  - Suede
  - Visible logos or sports branding
  - Other colours or contrasting soles
  - High heels, backless, plimsolls or trainers
- Socks - Black, grey or navy socks. White socks can only be worn with a skirt. Socks must be unbranded, unadorned and worn below the knee.
- Tights - Navy, black or natural. No leggings or footless tights.
- Outdoor coat - Plain colour only is preferable. (Fluorescent strips are advisable for added safety on dark evenings). Leather or denim jackets, sweatshirts, hooded or otherwise, and other outdoor clothing of this type, particularly if emblazoned with motifs, are not acceptable. Any coat must be worn over the blazer, not underneath, and should be removed when indoors.

Jewellery

The only permitted items of jewellery are:

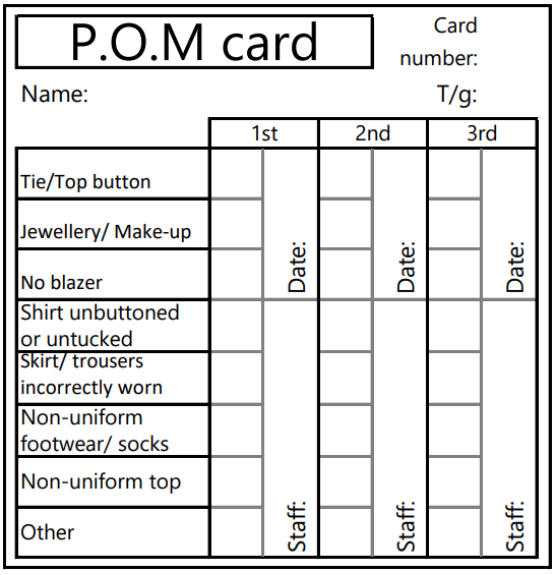
- a watch
- one spherical, plain silver or gold stud in each ear lobe (max. diameter 5mm)

The 'POM' Card

Every student is issued with a card that they keep in their inside blazer pocket. We call it a 'POM' card (Proud of Mountbatten).

When a member of staff sees a student out of uniform, they will ask the student for their POM card and record the uniform infringement on the card. Staff sign their initials on the card.

If a student gets three POMs, the card is retained by the member of staff and the student receives an automatic detention.



Make-up

- Students in Years 10 and 11 may wear discreet make-up. This means a small amount of foundation and eye make-up. What constitutes 'discreet' will be at the sole discretion of Form Tutors and Heads of Year.
- No make-up may be worn by students in Years 7, 8 and 9
- No student may wear false eyelashes
- No student may wear nail varnish or acrylic nails

Hair

- Extreme hairstyles and hair adornment are not permitted
- Hair must be natural in colour
- Tramlines or beads are not acceptable
- Students with long hair must tie it back where personal safety requires this

PE Kit Available from Skoolkit or Direct4logos

PE Kit

- Navy blue polo or round-necked T shirt with Mountbatten logo*
- Black unbranded shorts*
- Black unbranded socks*

*Parents can buy the items above from high street stores. All items must be plain and without a logo.

Optional – all items must be plain and without a logo.

- Navy blue round necked sweatshirt
- Black tracksuit bottoms
- Black sport leggings

The House System

Each student and each tutor group is in one of the School's five houses, each named after one of the ships in which Lord Mountbatten served:

- Lion (yellow)
- Wishart (red)
- Daring (green)
- Kelly (blue)
- Illustrious (silver)

As well as competing in Sports Day, PE fixtures and lots of other competitions, students earn points for their house with good behaviour. Each House has prefects, assemblies, a motto and a badge.











WE CARE, WE RESPECT, WE ACHIEVE

Recognising and rewarding excellence

Students earn ePraise achievement points at Mountbatten by doing great things that represent our core values. The following table gives examples of how your child can secure achievement points:

Care	Respect	Achieve
Charity work Commitment to others Community service Out of hours commitments Acts of kindness	High standards Respect for school rules School environment The School Community Pride in Mountbatten	Homework Classwork Outstanding attendance Progress Mastery of a concept

MORNING AND AFTERNOON BREAK

During their first day in school, the kitchen staff will take each student's fingerprint. Students or parents can 'load' money to their food account so that food can be purchased.

Morning Break is from 10.40am to 11.15am. Students can buy 'grab and go' food in the canteen. Afternoon Break is from 12.55pm to 1.30pm. A good variety of hot and cold food can be purchased. Year groups have allocated times when it is their turn to queue for food.

MEET THE SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM



Chief Executive Officer
Mrs Heather McIlroy



Headteacher
Mr Chris Cox



Senior Deputy Headteacher
Mr Chris Martin



Senior Assistant Headteacher
Mrs Charlie Fisher



Assistant Headteacher
Mr Rob Davenport



Assistant Headteacher
Mr Ian Dunn



Assistant Headteacher
Mrs Samantha Whitfield



Director of Business Services
Mr Chris Goodrich

KEY PEOPLE, HERE TO HELP

Introducing the Transition Team



Mr Marshall
Head of Lower School



Mr Rice
Head of Year 7



Mrs Lovell
Head of Student Support



Miss Godsall
Senior SENCo
Years 9, 10 & 11



Mrs Herbert
SENCo
Transition, Years 7 & 8



Mrs Kayley
Assistant SENCo



Mrs Harper
Director of RSHE and Safeguarding



Mr Jeffery
Senior Support Worker



Mrs Russell
Senior Support Worker

Whenever students have any problem in school, they should first see their form tutor. They are there to help. They are also the first point of contact for parents. Students can also get support from members of our Student Services Team. If students feel unwell during the school day, they should go to the Student Medical Room.

HOMEWORK

What homework will be set?

Homework will be purposefully and deliberately constructed to enable students to select, organise and deploy a wide range of knowledge effectively. It will foster independent study and prepare students for the demanding GCSE qualifications and for later study.

Homework may include learning vocabulary, organising knowledge, preparing revision notes, reviewing previous work, or pre-learning for a future test. Some subjects may set practical instead of written tasks, where appropriate. Students could be asked to submit homework using Google Classroom, which will be explained to all students when they start at school. In order to help parents, carers and tutors monitor homework, please regularly check Google Classroom to see what work has been set and to help make sure it is completed.

COMMUNICATIONS

Effective communication between school and parents is vital

It is very important that school and parents work together. Parents may contact form tutors directly by email but remember that, unlike in primary school, secondary school teachers have a form group and up to ten other classes. You can expect a response within 48 hours. Subject teachers may teach literally hundreds of different students each day. Parents are asked to be mindful of this before directly contacting individual teachers.

We communicate with parents and carers in a number of ways. There is a weekly eNewsletter sent home to all parents. Please make sure we have your preferred email address and check that the eNewsletter and other emails are not disappearing into your junk box!

From time-to-time, other letters are sent to your email address although we try to keep this to a minimum and put things in the eNewsletter. For urgent matters we may text all parents (e.g., if there is a snow closure). It is important that we have up to date phone numbers.





BEHAVIOUR

We believe that students deserve to come to The Mountbatten School to enjoy disruption-free learning every minute of every lesson. Therefore, we expect all students to follow 'The Mountbatten Way':

1. I always try my hardest and learn to the best of my ability
2. I take responsibility for my learning and the learning of others, allowing everyone to learn without disruption
3. I always do as I am asked, the first time I am asked
4. I show kindness and respect to others, their opinions and their personal space
5. I am in the right place at the right time doing the right thing
6. I take pride in the presentation of all my work
7. I always have the correct equipment and wear my uniform correctly
8. I have good manners

We expect and require all students to meet the following standards:

10 classroom rules. All students must:		**10 general rules. All students must:**
Arrive on time, enter calmly and quietly	**1**	Be kind, polite and respectful at all times, to all people
Stand behind your desks before being asked to sit	**2**	Wear the correct uniform at all times including travelling to/from school
Sit where the teacher asks and have your equipment and books on your desk	**3**	Have their phone switched off and out of sight when on the school site
Listen carefully, in silence, when the teacher speaks	**4**	Walk not run, keep left where possible
Put up your hand to ask or answer a question and wait to be asked to speak	**5**	Respect the school environment
Complete all work to the best of your ability	**6**	Put litter in the bins provided
Allow everyone to learn without disruption	**7**	Leave toilets as you would like to find them
When the teacher tells you, pack up, stand quietly behind your chair and wait to be dismissed	**8**	Move promptly to all lessons
Hold the door open for others	**9**	Not consume energy drinks or chew gum in school
Read a book in silence when waiting for a teacher	**10**	Travel to/from school courteously, showing kindness and respect to all in our community

3D Curriculum

At our school we know that we achieve excellent test and examination results. What makes our school special is that we value other qualities and characteristics just as highly as academic success.

We prepare students to become:

- Rounded individuals of integrity
- Successful in the world of work
- Happy and fulfilled young people

The 3D Curriculum is how we describe the qualities and characteristics that we value, develop and reward in every aspect of school life. These qualities are directly linked to our school motto: We Care, We Respect, We Achieve.





‘The values of Earl Mountbatten permeate the school so that students develop a strong sense of what it means to be British in the twenty-first century.’

Ofsted

The Mountbatten School
Whitenap Lane, Romsey, Hampshire, SO51 5SY

Founder Patron: 1st Earl Mountbatten of Burma
Patron: The Lady Alexandra Knatchbull

Chief Executive, Personal Best Education Trust: Heather McIlroy
Headteacher: Christopher Cox

t: **01794 502502**
e: **info@mountbatten.school**

w: **www.mountbatten.school**

Instagram: **@themountbattenschool**
Facebook: **www.facebook.com/themountbattenschool**

