



# ARCHBISHOP ILSLEY CATHOLIC SCHOOL

"Let Your Light Shine"

Victoria Road, Acocks Green, Birmingham, B27 7XY

**Tel:** 0121 706 4200

**Email:** [enquiry@ilsley.bham.sch.uk](mailto:enquiry@ilsley.bham.sch.uk)

**Website:** [www.ilsley.bham.sch.uk](http://www.ilsley.bham.sch.uk)

Headteacher: Mr Ciaran Clinton



Emailed the day before the pupils returned in September

Dear parents and carers

## Welcome back

We're thrilled to welcome all pupils and students back to school tomorrow after the summer break. We hope your child's time off was filled with fun, relaxation, and maybe even some new adventures. Now, it's time to jump back into learning, growing, and making memories together.

Every year is an important year so it goes without saying that this year is too. It is important that we get the basics right to give themselves the very best chance to succeed.

This year will be full of exciting opportunities, and we can't wait to see all the amazing things your child will achieve. Whether they're returning to familiar faces or meeting new friends, they need to remember that every day is a chance to learn something new and make a difference.

## Arrival

All pupils should enter through the blue gate directly from the Warwick Road. Pupils' entry to school will be supervised between 8:00 and the start of the school day at 8:45. The gate will be locked at 8:45.

## Equipment

This year group had a good year last year at Archbishop Ilsley so I am excited to see the achievements and successes I know this year will bring. In order to reach their potential, pupils need to be organised. Please ensure your child is fully equipped to start the new school year. This includes a school bag, water bottle and stationery.

## Uniform

You can find a copy of the uniform policy on our website.

<https://www.ilsley.bham.sch.uk/key-information/policies/>

You may recall Mr Clinton emailed you on 24<sup>th</sup> August where he gave you some advice about school uniform and corrected some misconceptions sometimes spread by pupils. Below was his advice.

**Shoes** – shoes should be black and leather. Some pupils, swayed by peer pressure, may tell their parents that black trainers are acceptable. To be clear, shoes should not contain any sports logos whatsoever (Nike, Adidas, Lonsdale, Kappa etc) and should be able to be polished.

**Blazers** – all pupils need to wear a blazer. If they wish to wear a coat, this should be over their blazer and not instead of.



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**Tracksuit tops** – are not allowed. There seems to be a current trend in Birmingham schools of wearing Nike Tech Fleece to school. These are expensive so keep them safe at home and save them for wearing at the weekend.

**Tights for girls and no socks** – all girls must wear tights. Socks should not be worn over the tights. Again, a recent trend is for a very small number of girls to wear sports sock over their tights. This was recently debated at our parent consultation which took place on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> July. I have taken these points on board but no change will be made this academic year. Girls are welcome to wear trousers but they should be aware of the guidance below.

**Trousers** – trousers should be the usual standard fit. They should not be skinny fit, 'jeggings style'. Parents with daughters should be particularly aware of this if they go uniform shopping. Socks, of course, can be worn with trousers. They should be plain black or navy blue – sports socks are not permitted.

Other items that are not permitted include small pouch size bags. In addition, energy drinks and fizzy drinks are not permitted on the school site.

Please be aware that parents may be contacted if pupils are not wearing the correct uniform. In some cases, children may be sent home.

### Reminder about mobile phones

All mobile phones should be switched off and kept in pupils' bags between 8:45 and 15:15. It would be greatly appreciated if parents did not contact their child during the school day on their mobile phone.

### How to raise a concern

I hope your child will be very happy this year at Archbishop Ilsley. We hope any concerns or misunderstandings can be resolved quickly by emailing your child's pastoral team on [enquiry@ilsley.bham.sch.uk](mailto:enquiry@ilsley.bham.sch.uk). If you feel the issue has not been resolved, our complaints policy can be found on the contact page of our website: <https://www.ilsley.bham.sch.uk/contact/>

Let's make this school year the best one yet! Welcome back. Now let's get started!

Yours sincerely

Your child's Head of Year