

Wednesday 12 March 2025

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I hope this letter finds you well. Please see below important school related news.

RE: Parent Teacher Meeting 3rd, 4th and 6th year

There will be a Parent/Teacher Meeting on **Thursday, 20th March 2025** for Parents/Guardians of **3rd, Transition Year and 6th Year** students from **4.15 p.m. to 6.45 p.m.** We request that Parents/Guardians arrive for the Parent Teacher meeting before **6.00 p.m.**

School will **finish** for all students at **12.50p.m** to facilitate staff training.

RE: Parents of 3rd and 4th year student: Options Information Meeting 4.00p.m.

We would like to invite you to our school for an information session **Thursday 20th March**, prior to the parent teacher meeting.

We are holding an information session on the benefits of the;

1. Transition year programme
2. Leaving Certificate Applied
3. Traditional Leaving Certificate

This information session will assist you and your daughter in making an informed decision on which programme to opt for in 2025-2026.

This information session will take place at **4.00 p.m. in our school canteen.**

Co-education Information Meeting 6.00 p.m.

The final of our series of meetings and information sessions on Co-Education will take place 20th March 6.00p.m. - 6. 30p.m in our school canteen. This meeting will provide further details and answer any questions you may have. We encourage you to participate in this discussion and to reach out to us with any feedback or concerns.

School Books Scheme

I am delighted to announce school books and some classroom supplies will become free for all students from this August. This is a great initiative that will greatly reduce the financial burden on families. The subsidised cost of books had been €250 for Junior cycle and €200 Senior cycle. This is very welcome news for our school community.

School Uniform

- We set a high standard for our students and this includes their school uniform.
- Students must always maintain their uniform to a high standard.
- Uniforms take the pressure and stress away from students by standardizing the dress code.
- At Stanhope Secondary we will always try make our school a stress-free zone, this allows our students to focus on their academic study, personal growth and success.

School Uniform and School Tracksuit

As you may be aware, we are introducing new school uniforms in August. This initiative has been a collaborative effort involving our Co-Education team, students, teachers, and parents. We appreciate the input and support from everyone involved in bringing these projects to life.

New school uniform incoming 1st year students only

We will introduce a new school uniform for incoming 1st year students i.e. 2025-2026. The new uniform looks amazing and we have had great feedback from the boys and girls that will get the opportunity to wear it with pride in August. Our new uniform will be available to view in our reception over the next few weeks, but current students will not need to purchase this, unless they wish to.

Current School Uniform (Navy)

Our students will be able to continue to wear their current school uniform for as long as they wish, they will not need to purchase the new uniform unless they wish to. They will however have the option of purchasing the new uniform should they wish, but the new uniform will not be mandatory for them. We feel this is the best option for students and families.

New School tracksuit Details

The new PE uniform from Grant's clothing will consist of:

1. **School-crested ¼ Zip Top**
2. **School-crested Sports Jersey**
3. **School-crested Leggings, Tracksuit Bottoms, or Shorts.** Students only need to choose one option i.e. leggings, tracksuit bottoms or shorts to go with their zip top and sports jersey.

The new tracksuit will replace the red/grey crested hoodies in August. This new uniform will be a marked improvement in quality and be suitable and comfortable for all sports activities. We really wanted our students to have a PE uniform they could be very proud of and we believe we have achieved that. This new PE uniform will be obligatory **for all students** from August and will be available from Grants Clothing.

Students will have the option to **purchase the new PE uniform now** should they wish. The PE uniform is of a very high quality and will cost between €104-€107 depending on choice of shorts/leggings etc.

Trial Initiative – Wearing the New PE Uniform for PE Day i.e. Full Day

To improve student comfort and convenience, we are considering a **short trial period** where students wearing the **new PE uniform** may wear it for the full school day on their PE day only. For the trial to be successful, we expect students with the new PE clothes to wear it only on PE days.

Students that wish to remain in the old PE uniform i.e. Red/Grey crested hoodies.

For the duration of the trial, Students in the old PE uniform, will continue their practice of changing before and after PE and will not be involved in this trial. These students will not need to purchase their new school tracksuit until August.

If you have any question or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact our school office.