

# Gartree High School

Ridgeway, Oadby, Leicester, LE2 5TQ



Dear Parents,

As we come towards the end of the school year, attention naturally turns towards the next. It is for this reason that we are writing to you early to set out what is required for the next academic year, so that you and your child can prepare.

## Parent handbook

Please familiarise yourself with our parent handbook, and website, that has all the information you need to ensure that your child is ready to return to school in August. Although your child is already attending Gartree, this time of year is a good time to remind ourselves of the standards and expectations of our students alongside the home school agreement.

Parent handbook: [Parent Handbook 2026 - 2027](#)

Some key pages for the following year include:

- Further clarity on what is not acceptable uniform as well as what correct uniform consists of
- Our communication charter being included. This ensures smooths communication with parents so please refer to this

## Student 'How We Do It'

This year we would also like to share with you our student version of the parent handbook. This is our 'how we do it' in school and covers all areas from lunch to uniform, homework to reading.

This is being shared with you, for the first time, to ensure that the trinity of school, student and parent are all aware of how Gartree works and supports these values and processes. Please take the time to view our 'how we do it'.

Student – 'How We Do It' Handbook: [Student handbook - 'How We Do It'](#)

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## Student Responsibility Focus

We believe that developing student responsibility is essential, as it builds the habits and resilience young people need for success both now and in the future. One of our school values is: 'Everyone is responsible for their own actions and self-discipline'.

Research shows that when schools set low expectations – often out of kindness in response to challenging circumstances – it can unintentionally foster the damaging belief that some children 'just won't get there.' When we signal that we expect less, we risk reinforcing the idea that society expects less of them too. This is neither healthy nor helpful for pupils' confidence, sense of belonging, or long-term success.

Therefore a theme of next year will be student responsibility.

**Student responsibility**  
*Everyone is responsible for their own actions and self-discipline*

- Equipment** – Students are equipped to learn each lesson
- Uniform** – Students demonstrate belonging through their uniform
- Punctuality** – Students take responsibility in managing their punctuality
- Toilets** – Students take responsibility in managing the daily structure of food, drink and toilet breaks
- Homework** – Students complete homework on time with high effort
- Student leadership** – Students lead visibly and responsibly across school

## READY

Thank you for your continued support with our mobile phone policy. Since its introduction, it has been a huge success and has helped us create a calm, focused and mobile phone-free environment for learning.

As we continue to strengthen our purposeful culture, including student responsibility, we are excited to launch **READY** from August. As always, we are sharing details of our day to day processes to ask for your support.

READY is not a new behaviour policy. Rather, it is a tightening and simplification of standards systems that already exist within the school, ensuring every student starts each day prepared to learn and succeed.

At Gartree, we believe in combining **high warmth with high standards**. We want every student to feel supported, but we also want to be clear about the expectations that help everyone learn successfully.

**READY**

- R** – Respectful
- E** – Equipped
- A** – Attend and Arrive
- D** – Dressed for Learning
- Y** – YOU can make a difference

ASPIRING TO PERSONAL EXCELLENCE  
IN A SUPPORTIVE COMMUNITY.



Each morning, students will enter school and tutor time in a calm and purposeful environment. Tutor time will continue to include reading and other independent activities, while tutors carry out a simple READY check.

If a student arrives to school without the correct equipment or uniform, our first response will be support rather than sanction. Students will have access to our READY Shop, where they can borrow essential items. In exceptional circumstances tutors will also be able to provide equipment such as pencil cases where appropriate.

The aim is simple: before we move to sanctions, we want every student to have a fair opportunity to be READY for the day ahead.

These READY checks will also take place through Student Reception for students arriving late to school. (Students will still receive any sanctions linked to lateness where appropriate.)

By ensuring students are READY before lessons begin, teachers can focus their time on teaching and learning rather than resolving issues with uniform, equipment or organisation.



READY to Learn checks will continue to take place at the start and end of lessons. Students who are not READY may receive sanctions, so it is important that students attend school in the correct uniform and with the correct equipment every day.

Full details are within the parent handbook: [Parent Handbook 2026 - 2027](#)

For most students and families, READY will not represent a significant change. The vast majority of our students already arrive fully prepared each day. READY simply ensures greater consistency and support so that every student can begin lessons ready to learn.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support and for continuing to work together for your child. We look forward to continuing this partnership to make READY a success.

We want your child to succeed so if there are any questions or if you need any support please contact your child's year team.

**Kind regards,**

Mr Carter & Mr Wilson