

Modern English School Cairo



Dear Parents,

We have now welcomed students back to school and the academic year is off to a wonderful start. Most impressive are how our students have settled across the school, but in particular, our new students in FS1 and our Year and Grade 7 students who are beginning their journey in Secondary. The introduction of hats in FS has been well supported and our children look fabulous wearing them. New PE kits are popular amongst students also; they are looking smarter than ever! And being able to see our students' faces, without masks, has made a noticeable impact on wellbeing and connectedness; we had missed seeing each other's smiles.

A highlight of last week and this week was seeing Cougar training return to our daily routines once again after a long, COVID-induced, hiatus. We are excited to support our sports teams with their planned matches and tournaments. Their efforts bring this important aspect of school culture back to life. Go Cougars!

We have started the year with some early trips also; follow school social media channels for regular updates of all the exciting things that we squeeze into every single week at MES Cairo! There can be no doubt that we are determined to ensure that students' learning experiences are memorable, rich and engaging, whether that be in the classroom or beyond.

UPCOMING DATES OF IMPORTANCE

Please note that school will be closed on Thursday 6 October 2022 for the observance of Armed Forces Day, and again on Sunday 9 October 2022 to honour the occasion of Mawlid El-Nabawey.



Non-uniform Day on Wednesday 5 October 2022: Students should wear Red, White and Black - Please follow the usual guidance:

- no leggings or other tight-fitting clothing
- no denim
- no clothing with logos that are unsuitable for school
- Shorts and skirts are to be knee-length
- tops are to fall below the waist
- Students who do not wish to dress in line with the occasion are expected to wear full school uniform.



UNIFORM REMINDERS

Children benefit from an MES Cairo education most when there is an understanding of our rules and shared values between home and school. This includes all aspects of school life, including uniform and appearance.

Hair for boys needs to be cut short in line with school policy. Time is wasted each day in conversations with boys about this, causing them embarrassment and disruption to their learning. It is not a policy change to insist on short hair; it has always been the expectation at MES Cairo and we ask that parents support this policy.

Hair for girls needs to be tied back in Primary. Secondary girls are also encouraged to tie their hair back so that they can see.

Secondary-aged boys must be cleanly shaven.

Makeup is not part of the school uniform. This includes eyeliner and lip gloss.

Jewellery needs to be kept to a minimum. Girls may wear one pair of plain ear studs only. A watch may be worn as part of the uniform code (please no smart watches that are connected to phones). Bracelets, necklaces, wrist bands, facial piercings, etc., are not acceptable.

PUNCTUALITY

We have seen a larger number of students return to school bus services, which best ensures that children get to school in time for an orderly start.

Road changes around New Cairo are to continue, so please ensure departure for school in private vehicles takes such delays into account. Arriving late to school is disruptive to their learning, and that of others. Now that students have settled into the school year sanctions will apply to persistent latecomers.



RESPECT

Our focus for this year is RESPECT: of self and of others. You might enjoy watching the video produced by our staff which was shown in assemblies during the first week: <https://youtu.be/NVqxA2MANw0>. Please reinforce this theme at home so that students develop this as an intrinsic quality of their character, which I am sure you will all agree is an important one. We are using the mantra 'RESPECT: Give it. Get It!' You will be hearing more about this through events, activities and occasions throughout the year, including on Pink Day 27 October 2022 - our next newsletter will focus on this big occasion in the school calendar and how you can support our fundraising efforts for the Breast Cancer Foundation of Egypt.



THANK YOU

We have so much to be grateful for at MES Cairo. School facilities that are world class and have been carefully maintained and revived over the summer months. Staff who give their all and who uphold the highest standards of themselves and their students. Students who are delightful and endearing, and bring joy to every day. And to our parent community, for your ongoing appreciation for our efforts and your support of our school. The smooth start to the year has not happened by magic or coincidence, it has occurred because of the collective efforts of the entire MES Cairo community.

