

Meopham School

A Member of Swale Academies Trust

Trust Principal: Mr J Whitcombe MA
Headteacher: Mrs S Dickinson BA (Hons) NPQH
Tel: 01474 814646
Fax: 01474 813083



Wrotham Road Meopham Kent DA13 0AH
Email: meopham@meopham.kent.sch.uk
Website: www.meopham.kent.sch.uk

Our ref: SDI/JC

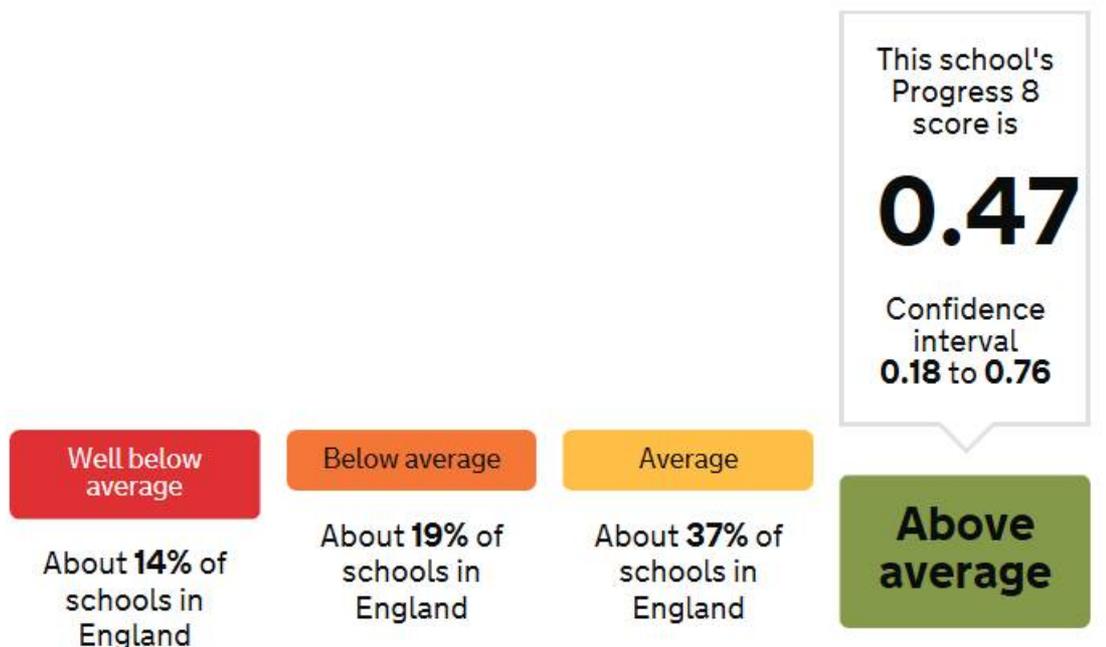
30th October 2018

Dear Parents/Carers,

I am delighted to share with you the news that Meopham School has been confirmed for the third year running as the highest performing High School in Kent (2018 Provisional DfE Performance Tables). We have also, once again, out-performed all the schools in Gravesham, achieving a higher Progress 8 figure (the new Performance Table measure which is used to rank schools) than even our local grammar schools. Indeed, our results place us in the top 17% of schools nationally.

Our Progress 8 score of **0.47** is extremely positive. Progress 8 is a new secondary accountability measure aimed at measuring the progress of pupils across a selected set of 8 subjects. It is a type of value added measure, meaning that pupils' results are compared to the actual achievements of other pupils with the same prior attainment. The minimum expected Progress 8 score (the "floor standard") set by the Government is -0.5, with the national average set at 0. Our Progress 8 figure of +0.47 means that the average achievement of our pupils is **half a grade better per subject than the national average of pupils with the same prior attainment**. This, together with the fact that **71% of students achieved a grade 4 or above in both English and Maths** (up 10% on the equivalent figure last year), places us securely above the national average:

2018 DfE Performance Tables



I would like to encourage you to take a look for yourselves online at the following website:
<https://www.gov.uk/school-performance-tables>.

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE IN A RURAL SETTING

So how have we achieved such incredible results? We've achieved them by focusing on the basics, and by focusing on them relentlessly. Standards of planning, teaching and marking are extremely high. We are a great team. We know our students very well and do everything in our power to work with them, and you, to ensure their success. Our students are proud of their school, and rightly so.

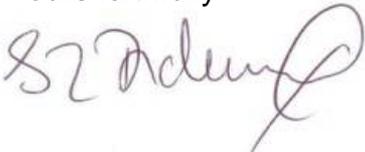
Our Open Evening was incredibly busy. During Open Week we were delighted to welcome a record number of parents through our doors. Parents commented on how impressed they were with the new school buildings, and yet how pleased they were to see a traditional school in action with a genuinely strong family ethos. During the school day we all see a school where the students are actively engaged in their learning, where students are polite and courteous at all times, and where standards of uniform are high. We were delighted to showcase this to outside visitors. Our students, your children, are, indeed, our very best ambassadors. They are a credit to us all.

I would like to extend the opportunity to visit the school during the working day to you, as existing parents, so that you can witness the school in action yourself. Invitations will be sent out, by year group, prior to all parents' evenings this year.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you, our parents, for your ongoing support. You, too, have played a considerable part in our success. I thank you for sending your children into school wearing their correct uniform, and wearing it with pride. I thank you for your support in ensuring that they are here on time. And I thank you for doing everything you can to ensure that our pupil attendance is above the national average. It is you who send them in when they don't feel their best, telling them to "see how you get on". And it is you who choose to take your holidays during school holidays rather than in term time. These seemingly small actions make a huge difference to the outcomes of our students. This success is truly a Meopham family effort.

Let's continue to work together to ensure that we continue to build on this fantastic success. Meopham School is a small school with huge ambitions. Together, we're making such a difference to the lives of our young people. Well done to everyone!

Yours faithfully



Mrs S Dickinson
Headteacher

Please see attached term dates

2018 – 2019 Academic Year

Dates for the academic year of 2018 – 2019 are below.

Term 1

Term 1 Starts:	Tuesday 28 August 2018	
	Years 7, 11 and 12 return on Wednesday 29 th August. All years in school on Thursday 30 th August 2018	
Term 1 Ends:	Friday 12 October 2018	
Staff Development Day:	Tuesday 28 August 2018	
Holiday:	Monday 15 October 2018 to Friday 26 October 2018	34

Term 2

Term 2 Starts:	Monday 29 October 2018	
Term 2 Ends:	Wednesday 19 December 2018	
Staff Development Day:	Friday 30th November 2018	
Holiday:	Thursday 20 December 2018 to Wednesday 2 January 2019	38

Term 3

Term 3 Starts:	Thursday 3 January 2019	
Term 3 Ends:	Friday 15 February 2019	
Holiday:	Monday 18 February 2019 to Friday 22 February 2019	32

Term 4

Term 4 Starts:	Monday 25 February 2019	
Term 4 Ends:	Friday 5 April 2019	
Holiday:	Monday 8 April 2019 to Monday 22 April 2019	30

Term 5

Term 5 Starts:	Tuesday 23 April 2019	
Term 5 Ends:	Friday 24 May 2019	
Holiday:	Monday 27 May 2019 to Friday 31 May 2019	27

Term 6

Term 6 Starts:	Monday 3 June 2019	
Term 6 Ends:	Wednesday 24 July 2019	
Staff Development Days:	Thursday, 27th June 2019 Friday 28 June 2019 Swalefest Wednesday 24 July 2019	34