



16<sup>th</sup> April 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

**Re: Uniform Standards**

We have high expectations of our students in all aspects of school life. We believe that high standards of uniform, behaviour and conduct; being properly equipped; high levels of attendance and punctuality give our students the very best chance of learning well and becoming successful participants in our shared communities.

None of us have been untouched by this pandemic, in some way or another, and as a school we have sought to balance the challenges we know our young people and families have faced with the need to provide a school environment that continues to be aligned to our values: *friendship, excellence and respect* and our expectations: *ready, respectful and safe*. We do this because we know that young people thrive in a structured environment, where expectations are clear and consistent. We do this to prepare them for their next steps because we know that they will enter colleges and workplaces that will also be governed by clear expectations and shared values.

We have given students a week to settle back into the routines of the school day and have delivered assemblies and tutorials on why our expectations and values are so important for our school community. As part of that we have reiterated our uniform standards, which are: [here](#). Key things to note:

- **Trainers are not permitted unless there is a valid medical reason, with a note.**
- **Official school skirts must be worn at an appropriate length.**
- **No jewellery other than a watch and one set of plain studs. Facial piercings are not permitted.**
- **Sweatshirts and hoodies worn over/under blazers are not allowed.**
- **Outdoor coats will no longer be allowed to be worn inside the school building unless there is a significant drop in temperature. Blazers must be worn at all times.**
- **Mobile phones are not permitted inside the building, unless directed by staff. Students may use their phone at break and lunchtime in their outdoor area.**
- **Students hairstyles should be appropriate for the school environment, e.g. no shaved heads; extreme hair colours.**

Again, I reiterate that our uniform standards are important because they remove barriers and allow young people to focus on our core business - learning. Our standards help young people to develop the ability to meet expectations and embody the values that all colleges and employers will want to see. We live in a world that is governed by laws, rules and regulations. To not prepare our young people for this world would be remiss of us.

If a student's appearance does not meet the expected standard the school reserves the right to apply sanctions in line with our behaviour policy. **In all cases, the school reserves the right to determine what is and what is not acceptable, in terms of uniform.** If you are experiencing any difficulties around uniform please do not hesitate to contact your child's tutor or head of year.

Yours faithfully

Mrs J M Sherwood  
Deputy Headteacher (Acting)