

BJ/NH

June 2011

Dear Parent/Carer

I am sure that you will agree with me that our students must be smartly presented at all times and that you will support the school in our endeavours to continually improve all aspects of your child's education. I am pleased to say that the majority of our students are well presented and can I thank you for your support in this matter. Sadly over the past year the standard of the students' school uniform has deteriorated to a totally unacceptable situation for a significant minority of students. The issues revolve around lack of the correct school bag, incorrect footwear, black cardigans 'hoodies' and other incorrect knitwear items. There has been a dramatic increase in the wearing of earrings, rings and the possession of mobile phones and mp3 players. This is occurring at the same time as the students have a lack of the most basic equipment i.e. pens, pencils, rules etc.

Therefore, with effect from September 2011, all students must comply fully with the full school uniform code and it must be correctly worn at all times. This includes travel to and from school. All students must also be fully equipped for all lessons.

In order to help you in ensuring that your child is correctly dressed and equipped for school, I have enclosed a full list of compulsory equipment and school uniform.

From September 2011, all students who have an incorrect item of clothing, the wrong bag, mobile phones, mp3 players and earrings or rings will have them confiscated and will only have them returned to their parents. Students must possess **both** school bags, one for their books and equipment, and one for their PE kit. The **ONLY** footwear that will be acceptable will be **ALL BLACK SHOES** without manufacturers' logos and must be either slip on or with laces for boys and/or buckles for girls; trainers and canvas pumps will not be permitted. I will be purchasing a selection of shoes that I will expect any student to wear if they arrive in incorrect footwear.

The wearing of the school tank top has been optional. However, students are deciding that they will wear alternative knitwear items or 'hoodies'. Therefore, from September 2011 the school tank top will be compulsory wear unless the weather is too warm at which time I will decide to relax this rule.

I will also be insisting that students wear their uniform correctly and with pride both in school and travelling to and from. This means that all shirts must be tucked in and ties worn in a manner where the knot is up to the collar and the badge is seen below the knot, with at least 7 stripes showing below.

Continued overleaf.....

May I also take this opportunity to remind you that the rules on hair are that only natural colours will be permitted and that any cut must not be less than a number 2.

By the end of term you will be able to see photographic examples on our website as to what is and what is not acceptable attire.

Finally, I would also like to highlight another cause for concern in relation to our students drinking energy drinks e.g. red bull, boost, monster etc. The level of caffeine in the drink, especially for young people, is extremely harmful to their health; the drinks also affect student behaviour for the worst in school. I would be grateful if you would discuss this with your son/daughter. From September, any student who is in possession of a high energy drink will have it confiscated during the school day and it will be returned at the end of the day.

If for whatever reason your child cannot comply with the regulations outlined in this letter please do not hesitate to contact the school and we will do our utmost to support you.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support in this matter.

Yours sincerely

B Jordan

Brian Jordan
Headteacher