



4 July 2017

Dear Parent/Carer

Introduction of the new uniform for September 2017

I am delighted to be able to give you an update on our new uniform. I appreciate that it has been a while since my previous letter, but I wanted to provide all information at once rather than sending multiple letters.

First of all, I can confirm that the new uniform will be available for purchase from Uniform Direct in Gainsborough from **Monday 17 July**. **Our uniform is only available from Uniform Direct**. Items of uniform (trousers, jackets and skirts) purchased from other stockists are not acceptable.

Additionally, Uniform Direct have offered to run “pop up shops” at school for us in the first week of the Summer Holidays. To try to regulate the flow of customers, we would ask you to observe the following:

- Wednesday 26 July 9.30 – 12.00: Burghley House
- Wednesday 26 July 1.00 – 3.30: Galileo House
- Thursday 27 July 9.30 – 12.00: Hardwick House
- Thursday 27 July 1.00 – 3.30: Shakespeare House
- Friday 28 July 9.30 – 12.00 and 1.00 – 3.30: anyone unable to attend their allocated slot.

You will not be turned away if you turn up in the wrong slot. However, we are hoping to avoid lengthy queues by dividing up the sessions in this way.

You can, of course, also buy the uniform from their shop in Gainsborough.

You will remember that we offered to subsidise the uniform for any students currently at school. This offer does not apply to the new Year 7 students, nor does it apply to anyone joining us as an in-year admission in other years, as they will have to buy a new uniform anyway. Uniform Direct will be supplying us with vouchers which will be distributed before 17 July. Each voucher will contain a personalised QR code which will give you a £25 reduction on the cost of the uniform.

Full details of the uniform will be posted on our website by 17 July too.

Please note that the vouchers expire on Saturday 12 August. They are valid at both the pop-up shops and the main Gainsborough store. This gives you four weeks to purchase your uniform and take advantage of the voucher.

Uniform Direct have said they will be happy to exchange any items you buy throughout the summer holidays, so please keep your receipt and do not remove tags until you are confident that it fits!

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Frequently asked questions

There has been a lot of speculation regarding the new uniform, including a suggestion that it is dry clean only. We can confirm that – as with the current uniform – it is fully machine washable.

We have also been asked about branded trousers. To assist with the enforcement of their uniform policy, many schools now have their school logo sewn on to the trousers. This adds additional cost to the price of the uniform, so we have avoided doing this. **Trousers bought from other stockists are not acceptable and we want to avoid parents incurring additional costs by purchasing the wrong trousers and then having to buy the correct ones from Uniform Direct.** Uniform Direct have said that they can supply us with a list of parents who are buying jackets without trousers or the skirt so that we can contact you direct.

Please remember that we agreed that students currently in Year 10 would wear a version of the uniform next year: they should wear the same suit or jacket and kilt as the rest of the school, but **without** the school badge. This is so that they have something at the end of the year that they could use for interviews and other smart occasions. If wearing the kilt, they should wear a white blouse with no tie; if wearing trousers, they should wear a white shirt with their own choice of tie. This is a one-year solution for 2017-18 and does not apply to future years.

I show many prospective parents around school – both parents of primary school children but also parents moving to the area or parents wishing to transfer their child from another school to ours. Feedback from them about the uniform is invariably positive, and I am looking forward to seeing our students wearing it in September.

Yours sincerely



J White
Vice Principal