

18 January 2010

Letter to all Parents

Dear Parent/Guardian

Re School Uniform

As you will be aware from our Christmas issue of School News, we sought to clarify our school uniform for the New Year, and, as a further reminder, I have copied the article on the reverse of this letter. I hope this checklist will be useful. Fortunately most of our pupils do conform to our expectations and are a credit to you and the School.

However, I appreciate that encouraging your son/daughter to 'wear our School uniform correctly' as reflected in our School Standards can occasionally be difficult, as what pupils may perceive to be 'correct' may be different to our view. Therefore I wish to assure you that we have not changed our uniform but are simply clarifying what is and what is not acceptable in response to some of the recent fashion items that have been worn by pupils recently.

We are committed to maintaining a uniform that is smart, simple, practical and affordable and will be inviting you as parents to contribute to a review of our School uniform later this year. However, we would be grateful if you could help us by ensuring your child leaves for school each morning appropriately dressed for a day of learning.

Where inappropriate items of clothing are worn to School, pupils can expect one or more of the following outcomes:

- to be asked to remove the item
- to be given a short period of notice (approximately 2 weeks) to purchase a correct replacement item of School uniform if not already in possession of one
- to be asked to wear an item of uniform 'on loan' from the School
- to have the item confiscated
- to receive a phone call home

As with any other persistent breaches of our School Standards, unnecessary defiance and confrontation related to uniform will be met with serious sanctions, and this could result in a period in 'isolation' within our Inclusion Unit.

Yours sincerely

Chiquita Henson
Headteacher

Cirencester Deer Park School



School Standard: 'Wear the school uniform correctly'

Our school uniform is simple and intended to be comfortable but smart. Correct uniform is important to establishing the right atmosphere for learning and we want pupils to take pride in their appearance. We ask for parental support in making sure that pupils leave home correctly dressed for school. Unfortunately, owing to recent fashion trends, standards of uniform at the school have dropped and, therefore in January 2010, we will be tightening up on our expectations and reinforcing them. We hope the following points of clarification, based on our recent experience, will help you in purchasing new items of school uniform and to keep the costs down as we believe our uniform should be affordable. With the exception of our school sweatshirt and polo shirt, most acceptable items are available from supermarkets and major high street stores. It should not be necessary for parents to buy expensive 'labelled' items from fashion shops.

Acceptable in school

The official Deer Park School polo shirt – in winter and spring this should be worn under the school sweatshirt.
A plain white school shirt with buttons to the collar worn under the school sweatshirt. These should be tucked in and worn correctly with a school tie.
A simple sleeveless vest top can be worn under the polo shirt as long as it can not be seen

The official Deer Park School sweatshirt – in winter and spring this should be worn over the Deer Park polo shirt.

Dark grey or black school skirts of a sensible length (this should be approximately knee length or just above the knee: neither too long nor too short).

Dark grey or black school trousers appropriate to the school environment

Shoes should be black, plain and of a sensible design. Heels should be of a sensible height, and certainly no higher than 2 inches, and shoes should be substantial and hard wearing. Plain black trainers without logos are now acceptable worn under trousers.

Earrings must not dangle and should be simple studs or sleepers, with only one to be worn in each ear
One simple gold or silver bracelet
One simple gold or silver chain or pendant worn under clothing may be worn

A plain fleece, plain hooded zip up sweatshirt (or a school hooded sweatshirt provided on trips or as a reward) or a coat can be worn as items of outdoor clothing outside the school buildings, over school sweatshirts but not in the place of them.

NOT Acceptable in school

High round collar long or short sleeved T-shirts worn under the Deer Park School polo shirt
Thermal sports tops worn under the Deer Park School polo shirt
Fashion shirts, not buttoned to the top.

Cardigans of any description
Jumpers of any description
Alternative sweatshirts or hooded sweatshirts

Tight straight very short skirts with a small slit on the thigh
Patterned fabric or, for example, tiered/puffball fashion skirts
Decorative fashion belts

Jeans, cords, patterned fabric, casual trousers or branded items.
Decorative fashion belts

White or coloured trainers or skate shoes
Black trainers with logos
Suede and/or fur-lined boots
Fashion boots
Canvas shoes or daps

Any facial piercings
Stretch earrings
Bangles and beaded bracelets
Plastic bracelets
Festival or charity wrist bands

Coloured or highly patterned hooded sweatshirts, denim or leather jackets

As you can appreciate we can not change our uniform in response to changes in fashion. From January 2010, if the correct school uniform is not worn, or not worn correctly, pupils and parents will be given a short period of notice to improve and persistent failure to adhere to our simple dress code will lead to serious sanctions and a child may be sent home. Pupils will be asked to remove items of non uniform and in some circumstances these may be confiscated.