

9 June 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

## **RE: Wearing of Uniform**

I hope this letter finds you well. I would like to take a moment to express my sincere gratitude for your ongoing support since January. It has been instrumental in implementing additional systems and measures to ensure a safe and conducive environment for our students at the Academy. I am pleased that our joint efforts were recognised in a positive report following the recent OFSTED monitoring visit. Your patience during the implementation of new leadership structures, training programs, and curriculum enhancements is greatly appreciated, and I'm glad to share that the response from both students and the community has been overwhelmingly positive.

However, there is one issue that we have yet to address successfully, and it has become a source of numerous complaints and concerns from various stakeholders: the adherence to our uniform policy.

Uniforms hold great importance as they symbolise pride in our institution and serve as a deterrent against bullying. When everyone is dressed similarly, it becomes difficult to target someone based on their attire.

While there are currently **no changes to the uniform guidelines**, which I have enclosed for your reference, we would like to request a closer adherence to these guidelines than we have observed recently. To ensure consistency, we will be implementing this in two stages, and I kindly request your support in implementing this important measure:

**Starting from the 19<sup>th</sup> of June**, we will ensure that students have the following uniform items and wear them correctly:

- Skirts
- Trousers
- No leggings
- Blazers
- Shirts (tucked in)
- Ties
- Hoodies (not allowed)
- Jumpers

Students have been briefed all this week on our requirements and given plenty of opportunity to ask questions.

**Furthermore, from September onwards**, there will be a need to pay particular attention to the enclosed uniform guidelines for the following items, that may require notice to adjust or comply with:



**Headteacher: Mr Nat Parnell**

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- Shoes (note: Nike Air Force trainers are not acceptable, despite being marketed as school shoes by the company)
- Piercings
- Hair colour and style
- Makeup

An aspect frequently brought up during discussions about school uniform is the observation that staff members do not adhere to a uniform. It is important to clarify that while there is no specific staff uniform at Huish Episcopi Academy, we do have a staff dress code in place, which is in line with the practices followed by most schools and workplaces in the UK. We will be taking steps to ensure that all staff members are well-acquainted with this dress code.

Your support and cooperation in this matter are greatly appreciated. Together, we can ensure a positive and inclusive learning environment for all our students. Please do address any concerns or queries to Mr Madge, Assistant Principal, who is overseeing the detail of this process on my behalf.

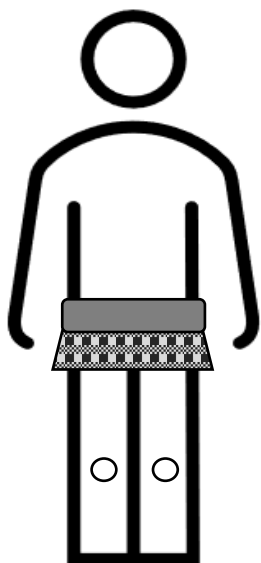
Yours sincerely

**Nat Parnell**  
**Interim Principal**

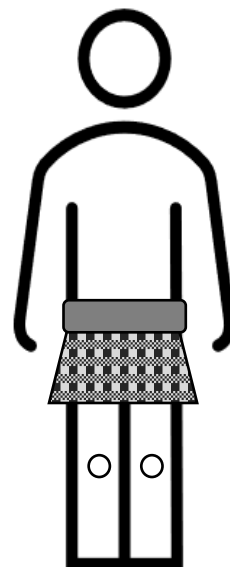




## Skirt Length Guide



Skirt rolled up,  
significantly  
shortening the  
length of the skirt.



Skirt worn unrolled and  
toward the knee.

Skirt worn below  
the knee.

***Maximum approx.  
10cm above the knee.***

