



**You Said, We Did – Uniform Consultation**

Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s),

In total we received 67 email responses to our uniform consultation and I would like to thank you all for sharing your thoughts and suggestions with us. All feedback has been considered at great length and in this ‘You Said, We Did’ sheet I will be outlining the action we have taken following the feedback which was most frequently shared through the consultation process, as well as sharing additional information regarding our decisions.

<b>Parent/Carer Feedback</b>	<b>School Response/Action</b>
<b><i>Parents and carers raised concerns about Year 11 students who would need to buy a full new uniform for only one year</i></b>	Following this parental feedback, we spent a great length of time exploring all available options and have decided that as a school we will purchase the new blazer and tie for every student entering Year 11 in 2022. This will ensure that no families will have to buy our main new uniform for only one year of use. We have also decided that Year 11 students do not need to wear the new PE kit and can continue to wear their current kit, unless they grow out of it.
<b><i>Parents and carers shared that they would prefer to keep initials on PE Kit</i></b>	Following receipt of this feedback we have decided to allow initials to be printed on PE items, as we understand it can help to ensure that families do not need to buy replacement items as often. This service is optional and provided by our uniform stockists.
<b><i>Parents and carers enquired regarding the possibility for new embroidery badges to sew on current blazers</i></b>	We have investigated this option with our uniform stockists. During these conversations they shared safeguarding concerns about selling a school branded badge which anyone could buy and sew on to any garment. Safeguarding our students is our top priority and due to these concerns sew on badges will not be available.
<b><i>Parents and carers expressed some concerns regarding the cost of purchasing a full new uniform</i></b>	All items have been re sourced with affordability and quality in mind. The majority of items are now cheaper than they would have been had we not changed our uniform in 2022, due to manufacturer price increases. This means that a more affordable uniform package has been secured for our future cohorts. To help alleviate the financial strain on families, all students entering Year 8 9, 10 and 11 will <u>not</u> need to have the new PE kit until they naturally grow out of their current item. Support for families where students are in receipt of free school meals will also be available.  The number of branded uniform items has also been reduced, with the branded PE legging, rugby top and track pant no longer being stocked and the v neck jumper moving to be unbranded.

<b><i>Parents and carers voiced concerns about the introduction of a straight shaped black skirt</i></b>	Trousers and skirts will now be black to match our blazer colour from 2022, however, based on parental feedback and uniform research, we have made the decision to <u>not</u> change to a straight skirt. From the start of the 2022 Autumn term, students may wear a stitch down pleated skirt as per the current uniform guidance, but in black.
<b><i>Parents and carers shared concerns if this was to be introduced mid-term</i></b>	We can confirm that changes will be in place following the 2022 Summer break - the beginning of the next academic term, not mid-way through a term.
<b><i>Parents and carers shared feedback regarding footwear requirements</i></b>	Our footwear guidance will not change in 2022, and students will continue to be required to wear a smart black shoe which can be polished. However, from the next academic year, our uniform guidance will be amended to reflect that football/rugby boots will no longer be listed as an essential item for students who identify as female in Year 7, 8 and 9.
<b><i>Parents and carers raised concerns that time was being redirected away from student learning to focus on the rebranding project</i></b>	It is extremely important to clarify that none of our rebranding work has redirected any staff time away from student learning or our quality improvement projects. We understand that every lesson counts and providing a high-quality education for all our students will continue to remain our core focus. Our rebranding exercise is simply a necessary element to consider as we continue to evolve as a school and has been completed at no detriment to our students, lesson quality or teaching time.
<b><i>Parents and carers shared varying feedback on the new proposed school name</i></b>	We received numerous responses from parents and carers who support the rebranding work and are in favour of the new logo and/or name. We also however, received some feedback that the new name may be confusing. I would like to share that the new name has been discussed at great length and the proposal shared with the Head Teachers of our surrounding secondary schools and all have shared their support for the new direction and name, raising no concerns.
<b><i>Parents and carers suggested that students be allowed to phase in black trousers and skirts</i></b>	We have taken this feedback on board and will be allowing students to begin wearing the new black formal side pocket trousers and black stitch down pleated skirts from when they return after the May 2022 half term, if they have out grown their current grey items. This will allow parents to avoid having to buy duplicates and extend length of wear of new items.
<b><i>Parents and carers enquired about recycling schemes for the old uniform</i></b>	We have discussed this with our uniform stockist, however, due to many of our items already being made from eco/recycled materials the ability to recycle them again is greatly reduced, due to the material properties. Therefore, offering a recycle scheme would unfortunately not be viable.

A full breakdown of our new uniform items will be shared shortly following this initial communication.

I would like to thank everyone who sent in their feedback during the consultation period and I hope that the information above shows the amount of time and thought we have invested into following up on your responses and using them to inform our approach.

Thank you,



Ms Hickman  
Head of School