



Headteacher: Mr M Warren

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> September

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Thank you for your emails expressing your concerns over the Sixth Form Dress Code and can we apologise for any confusion that has been caused by reference on our part to “business attire” (we appreciate that businesses these days have very varied dress codes). What we have always been seeking to ensure is that the Sixth Form are smart and presentable in a way that is straightforward and simple to administer.

In response to these and to other points that have been raised, we would like to clarify what the school’s position is regarding the Dress Code. But before we do we would first like to congratulate the Sixth Form on how smart they look and thank them for the genuine effort they have made to comply with the uniform demands, which they are doing, by and large, very successfully.

We have listened to your points, considered them seriously and on reflection have decided the following:

1. We will reinstate the option of wearing a dress, although this needs to match the colour of the jacket, as part of the dress code.
2. The dress code will remain, as stated on the website, that: “Sixth Formers are required to dress smartly and formally in a suit and be presentable at all times” We take the word ‘suit’ to mean by definition that both halves of the ‘outfit’ will be matching, but, in future, to avoid any further ambiguity, we will also include the word ‘matching’ in the description.
3. The dress code does not have to involve any great expense. We do not require that the suit jacket and suit skirt/suit trousers have to be of the same material or be the same design – simply that the colours match.
4. We are aware that, although the dress code hasn’t changed, in the past it has not been so strictly interpreted and this will mean that the students have fewer outfits/combinations to wear. However, we think there are many positives in this, in that the girls/boys will be clearer in what they can and can’t wear and the whole system will take less time to monitor, freeing up teachers and tutors to spend more time in tasks helping the students make progress in their studies.

So in summary, the advice on the website will in future read that:

“For Girls we expect

A matching suit comprising either:

A tailored skirt of mid-length (not of stretch fabric) with matching suit jacket

Or

Tailored trousers, with matching suit jacket

Or

Smart plain tailored dress (non-stretch) of mid length with matching suit jacket

These may be worn with smart shoes or smart ankle boots.

For Boys we expect

A matching (two or three piece ) suit  
Collared shirt  
Smart shoes or smart boots

For both boys and girls

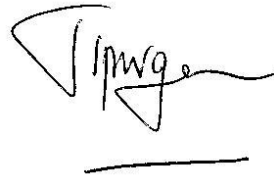
No facial or visible body piercings, other than earrings  
No extreme hair colours or hair styles"

We appreciate that the start of term for a number of the girls has not gone smoothly in regard to the dress code, so we will rescind all the 'consequences' (C1s etc) that have been awarded and start afresh from next Monday (2<sup>nd</sup> October) which will give the students time to acquire what they need. However, we also want to move forward now and we hope that you can support us and the school in maintaining a smart appearance in the students by adhering to the Sixth Form Dress Code as now stated.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M Warren'.

Mr M Warren  
Headteacher

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J Spurgeon'.

Mr J Spurgeon  
Head of Sixth Form