

18th June 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

Re: Uniform concerns

Following some recent assemblies, reminders and a student voice vote, it has come to our attention that there is a swell of 'fake news' on the unofficial Facebook pages surrounding uniform so we would like to outline our expectations for absolute clarity.

- Our female students do not have to wear skirts – they can choose to wear tailored trousers instead.
- We funded the purchase of all new skirts and blazers following extensive student voice in changing over from the old uniform to ensure families were not burdened with unnecessary costs.
- If a skirt is the chosen preference we request it is worn appropriately. During the first couple of weeks back at the academy, all girls have been reminded not to roll their skirts up but to wear them at the length they are designed to be worn. If the waist on a skirt is too big, we are happy for a smart plain black belt to be worn with the skirt. Different lengths can be purchased through Crested Schoolwear.
- We recently conducted a vote with our whole student body, with over 70% of them voting in favour of **all** students wearing ties from September.
- From September, **all** students will be expected to wear a tie. Once again we will be supporting families with this by providing a new tie to all female students on their first day in September.
- The PE kit at the academy has not changed for the last three years but during the global pandemic we recognise that standards in the expected 'PE kit uniform' have been inconsistent.
- Leggings and cycling shorts are not, **and have never been**, a part of our PE kit. To keep costs down, unisex, black PE shorts or plain black jogging bottoms are the PE expectation. If girls have skorts they can wear these but Crested no longer supply these as we removed them from the PE kit three years ago.
- Some girls think the plain black shorts are for boys – they are unisex. Girls are permitted to wear cycling shorts or leggings underneath these shorts. There is no other compromise. We will provide shorts for any girl who needs them so there is no additional cost to families.

There is no alternative to the stated PE kit, but we always welcome student voice when conducted in a structured and respectful way. With this in mind we would be happy to form a focus group to look at possible alternatives that are still in keeping with our high expectations whilst addressing any concerns our students have. An opportunity for this will be shared with students in the coming weeks.

As ever, we would like to thank you all for the continued support we receive and for the kind comments that have been sent in to the academy regarding the above expectations. If any parents would like to discuss the above any further, please email us via info@suacademy.co.uk and mark it for my attention.

Kind regards,



Mr Williams
Assistant Principal

