

30 June 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

RE: Uniform clarification for 2022-23

As we are approaching the end of the summer term, we feel it is important to reiterate the importance of students returning to the academy with the correct uniform. As I am sure you can appreciate as we return to school in September 2022 and gradually welcome our students back into the academy, it is particularly important that they return with the correct mind set and attitude, to ensure they make great gains in their learning.

We will be extremely excited to welcome our students back to school in the upcoming academic year and we are looking forward to working with them, to drive confidence with their education, in a robust, yet supportive learning environment, which ultimately will see them flourish again in our academy. We would like to see all students return with smart uniforms, which they wear with a sense of pride. We, therefore, believe it is timely, to remind students of our uniform expectations, as these expectations are extremely high, and all students are expected to always remain smart around the academy. We hope you will recognise the importance of ensuring that all students are regularly reminded of the academy's expectations surrounding uniform; consistency is extremely important, and we always try to ensure that students are treated fairly, in line with the Positive Discipline policy.

We, therefore, require all our students to attend the academy dressed in the correct uniform every day. It is important to make you aware that **skirts will no longer be permitted to be worn at John Smeaton Academy from September 2022**, all students will be required to wear smart full-length black trousers.

We would like to remind you about the following:

- Top buttons must be fastened, shirts tucked in, and ties should be tied correctly and pulled up to the top button. The academy's badge on the tie must be below the knot. At no time must a student's sleeves be rolled up. Academy blazers must be worn, and the V neck academy jumper is an optional piece of uniform.
- Excessive make-up should not be worn. For clarity, appropriate make-up is allowed and is defined as: foundation (appropriate to the student's skin tone), black or brown mascara which should be worn discretely and a small amount of neutral eye shadow if desired. Eyeliner, blusher, or bronzer is not to be worn. Where students fail to comply with the academy's expectations, they will be issued with a negative comment in line with the Positive Discipline policy.
- Students are encouraged to wear a coat especially as the winter months' approach; however, this is not part of the academy's uniform. Coats are to be removed on entering the buildings and placed in bags. This is essential in ensuring that we can quickly identify our students through their uniform. If a student is wearing an outdoor garment, for example a coat or a hoodie, inside the building they will receive a negative comment.



- Students are allowed to wear a watch (no smart watches or fit bits), one discreet ring per hand, and one earring per earlobe – small studs only. Earrings in other parts of the ear are not allowed, neither are facial piercings. Students are not permitted to wear necklaces and bracelets/bands (other than for faith reasons); however, students are allowed to wear one charity band on their wrist.
- It is important to note, that students who arrive in the academy wearing inappropriate footwear (this includes anything that looks like a trainer, Kickers or any shoe that is not below the ankle) will be placed in isolation until the footwear is changed. Shoes must be plain black leather or black leather- look. Students should not wear shoes that are decorative (e.g. diamantes); shoes that have reflective/coloured strips or logos; backless sandals; boots (above the ankle); trainers or leisure shoes including trainers which are leather or leather look. Students are also expected to wear plain black, charcoal grey or grey ankle socks, trainer socks are not permitted.
- All students are required to wear smart full-length black trousers. The academy will apply a common-sense approach to the definition of smart, however, leggings, chinos, skinny jeans, denim trousers, jeggings, or non-school trousers including those that are cropped in length will not be permitted. Skirts are no longer permitted at the academy from next academic year. Shorts are also not permitted.
- Students are allowed to wear a belt; however, this must be plain black.
- Hairstyles should not reflect the extremes of 'youth culture'. Hair colouring must be subtle and in natural colours – no pinks, reds, blues, two tone colour patterns or dip dye. Students with inappropriate hairstyles will be placed in isolation for a period of three days until the hairstyle has been rectified.
- False nails are not permitted, and nails must be natural in colour. False eyelashes are also not permitted.
- Girls may wear a hijab, but this must be plain black.

As students return to the academy in September, students will be issued with new A4 size books; please be mindful when purchasing a bag for your child as it will need to be a suitable size for A4 schoolbooks to be placed in.

Finally, we would like to wish you an enjoyable summer holiday when it arrives, and we look forward to seeing all students back in the academy in September.

Yours faithfully

Mrs E Jackson
Senior Assistant Principal