



The Talentum Learning Trust

Westwood
College

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CEO & Executive Headteacher: Mr A Shaw
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Our Ref: MGD/jc

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Dear Parent/Carer

WESTWOOD COLLEGE UNIFORM

I wanted to provide some further important clarification with regards to our College uniform policy. I appreciate that you are keen to have a clear idea about our expectations and to begin the process of obtaining the appropriate items of uniform.

You will find details of our College uniform, including the required sports kit, on our website under the 'Parents' tab. These details have also been added under the 'New Intake Students 2020' tab – so that relevant information for students starting in September is in one place.

In some aspects of our uniform – namely the blazer, tie, optional jumper and elements of the PE kit – purchase should only be made through our official stockists. This is because they carry the College logo or specific colouring associated with our College.

However, other aspects of the uniform – skirts, trousers and shoes – are available from a variety of sources. Currently, we adopt this approach because we recognise that these items can be competitively priced and such items are likely to need replacement at more regular intervals. However, in our experience, there has occasionally been some confusion amongst a small minority of students and their parents/carers with regards to these aspects of the uniform. We are keen to address this because inconsistencies in approach can lead to wider confusion amongst other students and also create a sense of unfairness.

With regards to skirts, our policy states that the skirt must be charcoal grey in colour, knee length and worn with solid black tights. Skirts can either be pencil or pleated but must **NOT** be stretch fabric. With respect to trousers, these must be charcoal grey school trousers – in a standard style and **NOT** skinny fitting or jeans type fabric.

In terms of shoes, these need to be **plain solid black shoes**. Fabric or canvas type shoes are not permitted and nor is trainer type footwear with a logo – even if these are predominantly black. High heeled shoes and boots are also not permitted, except in the latter case, when there has been significant snowfall and students are expected in College.

We appreciate that as students move into a 13-18 High School environment, they will wish to be treated increasingly as young adults. However, our view is that Westwood College is a professional setting and, in their appearance, students need to focus on a presentation that is both natural and subtle. In line with this, if a student decides to use make up, this needs to be applied with subtlety. We do not permit false eyelashes or fingernail extensions. We also do not allow students to dye their hair with a non-natural colour. Facial piercings, large earrings and ear stretchers are

also not allowed. Whilst students and/or their parents/carers might have gone to some expense to purchase such items, we do feel a greater duty to all of our students in maintaining a consistent approach and we will therefore require them to be removed in College.

Finally, with regards to the impact of Covid 19, the current Government guidance is that 'uniforms do not need to be cleaned any more often than usual, nor do they need to be cleaned using methods which are different from normal'. Their guidance is that all schools should adopt their usual uniform policies in the autumn term.

The aim of this letter was hopefully not to appear too draconian in our approach to uniform, but to provide clarity on what our expectations are. We do feel that our uniform is smart and encourages a sense of community and pride in the College.

Please do not hesitate to contact me via email at www.office@tlt.org.uk or via our Reception on 01538 370930, if you require any further guidance.

Yours faithfully



David Morgan
Head of Year 9