



5<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

## **Uniform - Footwear**

We have had a really positive start to the school year with all students attending year-group assemblies, hearing about summer results at GCSE and A level and setting our expectations for the new academic year.

We have been very pleased with students' appearance coming into school on their first day and given the nature of the September heat-wave, we have been happy to adjust the uniform requirements regarding blazers and girls' tights for the remainder of this week.

With regards to shoes, we have had contact from some parents regarding our guidance of what can and cannot be worn in school. We sent out information about this matter in our End of Term letter in July and in our Welcome Back letter sent last week. Information is also available on the school website.

Our intention has been to raise our expectations in the standard of student appearance and reduce the small number of incidents of students wearing trainers and other inappropriate footwear.

In our communication we have mentioned that school shoes should be, 'plain black formal shoes, not boots, sandals, trainers, cross trainers or canvas plimsolls.'

Based on observations this week, and also on conversations with some parents, we have been made aware that some styles of shoes that we had considered not to be formal shoes, are indeed marketed to parents and students as school shoes. Examples of these include, but are not exclusively, some shoes manufactured by Clarks, Kickers and Geox.

As such, we will allow students to wear these in school. Footwear with obvious branding, boots and trainers will continue to not be allowed in school. If you need further clarification prior to purchasing any new school shoes please contact school.

Where we are aware of students with medical conditions requiring specific footwear that differs from that listed, we will make allowances. Please contact school in these circumstances.

We thank you for your support in all matters regarding our high expectations as we start the new academic year.

Yours faithfully

Keith Hirst  
Headteacher