

February 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

I am writing to inform you of some changes regarding school uniform.

Purchasing School Uniform

- The school uniform shop will cease to operate from **19th April 2020**, with no uniform being sold from school as of this date
- The official school uniform suppliers will be J&S Products, 74 Tycoch Rd, Sketty, Swansea SA2 9EQ (<http://www.clothing-suppliers.co.uk/>) and Bergoni, 8, Tower Court, Swansea Enterprise Park, St. Davids Rd, Llansamlet, Swansea SA6 8RU (<https://www.bergoni.co.uk/>)
- Both suppliers will have dedicated Olchfa School pages on their respective websites for parents to order uniform from
- Both suppliers will accept online payments and offer a delivery service.

Trousers and Skirts

You may be aware of Welsh Government changes to guidance on school uniform. Although these changes are not mandatory, we are responding to the statutory guidance by changing our policy in relation to trousers and skirts. We are hoping that this change will give pupils greater choice and help reduce cost. Although these changes will be implemented from September 2020, this letter is intended to ensure you are aware of the changes well in advance.

From September 2020, pupils from Yr 7 to Yr 11 will be able to wear any black 'school style' trousers and skirts. We are anticipating these items will be purchased from school uniform departments/shops. There will still be an expectation that trousers are appropriately smart and that skirts both smart and an appropriate length (**further details on this will be released next half-term**).

Of course, pupils will still be able to wear Olchfa trousers and skirts that have already been purchased.

New PE Kit

We have recently been in consultation with pupils regarding our PE kit. Our existing kit has served us well as a school but is now looking rather tired and school sports clothing has moved on considerably. As such it is time for us to respond to these changes and give our pupils a PE kit that they can be proud of; one that is modern, professional and more fit for purpose for the range of activities that pupils now take part in during their PE lessons.

The new **compulsory** PE kit will be supplied through the new suppliers (mentioned above) and will consist of:

- Indoor t-shirt
- Durable outdoor t-shirt
- Shorts or leggings

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There are other items of sportswear that can be purchased but I would like to stress that these are optional extras and, whilst we are more than happy for pupils to wear them, they are not part of the required core kit. These are:

- ¼ zip top
- Tracksuit bottoms
- Skort
- Coat
- Socks

In addition to the above, pupils must wear studded footwear for all field based lessons. Suitable trainers must be worn for all other lessons indoors and on hard surfaces outdoors (except for sports which require bare feet). For hockey and football, pupils must wear shin pads with socks over the top for safety reasons. Pupils must have their own shin pads.

To limit the financial impact of the change in PE kit, we are planning a phased implementation over the next 12 months with a complete replacement achieved for September 2021. For September 2020, we could expect to see all new Year 7 pupils in the new kit. The PE department has also suggested that all pupils studying GCSE/A Level PE purchase the new kit, but this is only a recommendation.

Yours sincerely



Hugh Davies
Headteacher