

25 April 2019

Dear Parent/Guardian

School Uniform

Firstly, I would like to take this opportunity to welcome students back to College, and hope that you all had a restful Easter break.

As promised, I am writing to update you following the recent survey on potential changes to College uniform. We received over 700 responses from parents, students and staff, so thank you to all who contributed their views.

As a result, we will be implementing the following changes to the College uniform for the new Year 7 cohort in September, which will provide more opportunities for individualisation:

- The current burgundy sweatshirt will be changing to a grey V-neck sweater, which will feature a burgundy stripe in the neckline and an embroidered 'R' logo on the front left hand side.
- For Terms 1-4 inclusive (September – April), students will be required to wear a white, formal shirt (this can be long or short sleeved) with the current College tie. For Terms 5 and 6 (after Easter until the end of the summer term), students will be allowed to wear the current burgundy polo shirt. However, the design of this will be modified; the Robertsbridge Community College wording will be removed and replaced with the same embroidered 'R' design as the grey jumper on the front left hand side.
- In addition to the current pleated skirt, we will also be introducing a box pleated skirt, so that students have two choices of skirt. Both will feature the 'R' embroidered logo and both will have adjustable waists.
- The current plain black straight-legged trousers will remain unaltered.
- We will be introducing black shorts which will feature the same 'R' embroidered logo. These will be available for all students to wear and will be the only style of shorts permitted.
- There will be no changes to the current shoe policy – i.e. students will continue to wear black, formal shoes (no trainers permitted).
- There will be no changes to the current PE kit.

- Year 11 students will have the option to purchase a navy blue V-neck sweater (instead of grey) that will feature the same burgundy stripe and embroidered 'R' logo on the front left hand side. The same shirt/polo shirt option as listed above will apply, but students will be allowed their own choice of tie instead of the College one.

At this stage, we will not be implementing blazers.

I would like to be clear that any uniform change will be phased in. The changes will apply to the Year 7 cohort joining the College in September 2019 and there will be no expectation for any current student to have to purchase the new uniform; however they are, of course, welcome to wear it should they choose to. This also applies to the shirt and tie requirement from September 2019.

Price and Buckland will continue to sell current stocks of uniform but will no longer produce new stock; therefore all students will slowly migrate over to the new uniform in time. We have worked closely with Price and Buckland to ensure that they can provide items that are cost effective and kept in line with our current uniform costs.

Whilst writing, I would also like to remind you of the College policy on hairstyles:

- Hairstyles must be of a natural hair colour. Students cannot have artificial colours in their hair, such as blue, pink and green. Fashion trends that come and go, such as streaks and "dip dye *ombre* hair", will not be permitted.
- For students with short hair, this must be neat and tidy. There is no longer a specific reference to the length of hair; we simply ask that the hairstyle be a sensible one.
- If students have long hair, then this again must be tidy, however it must be able to be tied up when required (e.g. PE and Technology lessons).
- No extreme hairstyles will be permitted. This decision is at the discretion of the College and will be considered on an individual basis.
- As always, we recommend that if your child is considering a slightly alternative haircut, they check with the College before doing so.

Thank you for your support in upholding the College's high expectations and standards.

Yours sincerely



Zak Vice
Headteacher