

7th April 2017

Dear Parents/Carers

At Alleyne's Academy we place an emphasis on pride in our community. A visible indication of this is in the standard of students' uniform. Many visitors have commented on how smart our students are, however, it is important as we approach the new academic year that we maintain these high standards but at the same time clarify and tighten up some issues regarding the uniform.

Footwear

Recent fashion trends have led to a gradual increase of casual black shoes with leather uppers that appear at first glance to be acceptable school footwear. These include popular brands such as Converse, Vans, Adidas, New Balance and Nike. Although these companies often promote these products as 'school shoes', in our view footwear of this type is totally inappropriate for Alleyne's Academy. We appreciate that many parents have purchased shoes of this type in good faith and therefore students can continue to wear these until the end of this academic year (July 2017). However, these shoes will not be permitted from September 2017 which gives you plenty of advance notice so that alternative, traditional school shoes can be purchased. If you are unsure as to the types of shoes that are acceptable we have provided some guidance on our website.

Skirts

We are also conscious that many girls are wearing skirts of inappropriate length and need your support to ensure that skirts are a suitable length (just above the knee is acceptable). We acknowledge that fashion is a major influencing factor when parents purchase a school skirt for their daughter but safety and practicality is of primary importance for us at Alleyne's. We are working closely with our uniform suppliers to ensure that they stock suitable school skirts in various sizes and lengths that will conform to our dress code.

Trousers

These should be black and tailored with no visible zips or press studs. Jeans or any denim style material even if black are not acceptable. Leggings or alternative trousers that are tight fitting are also unacceptable. Please also note that hoodies and tracksuit tops cannot be worn inside the school

building. If your child is inappropriately dressed we have a store of spare items in school that your child will be asked to wear until they are wearing the correct uniform. Further guidance and information regarding our uniform suppliers is given on our website. Students who are not correctly dressed in September may be sent home and so we would very much appreciate your support in ensuring that your child is sent to school correctly dressed and equipped.

Mobile Phones

I would like to take this opportunity to remind you of the school's policy on mobile phones and other electronic devices. Phones are strictly not allowed in lessons because of the negative effect on student learning. Teachers will confiscate phones from those students not abiding by the rules, these will be kept securely in the main office. A call will be made home with the requirement for a parent/carer to collect the phone on their child's behalf. Please impress upon your child that this procedure will be followed consistently, so it is their responsibility to follow our mobile phone rules.

Yours faithfully

Mr Tweats
Acting Deputy Headteacher