

28th May 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

Reminder re: uniform, equipment, and standards.

Uniform

School uniform plays a valuable role in contributing to the ethos of a school and setting an appropriate tone. In the past we have spent considerable time working with our students to agree a uniform that they felt proud to wear.

The Department for Education strongly encourages schools to have a uniform as it can instil pride; support positive behaviour and discipline; encourage identity with, and support for, school ethos; ensure students of all races and backgrounds feel welcome; protect children from social pressures to dress in a particular way; and nurture cohesion and promote good relations between different groups of students.

We would like to therefore remind students and families of the Academy's uniform:

- House lanyard and TEMA tie which are provided by school.
- Black footwear. Trainers may be worn but these should be all black. No coloured stripes or soles.
- Coats and scarves must be taken off before entering school. No coats and scarves are allowed inside.
- Black trousers or skirt of school uniform style. Leggings, jeans-type leggings and jogging-type trousers are not permitted. Skirts must be of an appropriate length (maximum 2" above the knee).

We do not have a boys' and girls' uniform expectation. We support students to make a thoughtful and considered choice about the clothes worn at school in relation to their gender identity in conjunction with their families. Plain white shirt or blouse with top button fastened. Academy blazer displaying the academy logo. There is a school jumper, but this is an optional item.

Makeup, Hair & Jewellery

Subtle makeup is permitted. False eyelashes and nails should be of a natural length and appearance. Students' hair does not form part of our uniform expectations. We expect that long hair should be tied back when working in a science laboratory or technology classroom for health and safety purposes.

No other piercing or jewellery is allowed. This is for health and safety reasons and because students have not complied with only wearing one pair of stud earrings. Wristwatches are permitted – except smart watches. School bag – this should be large enough to bring your PE kit and fit A4 sized books.

Equipment

Uniform standards and equipment are checked daily in the Homebase of each year group. If any student requires equipment after Monday 3 June 2024, they will have to use their Class Charts points to buy it. A timetabled standards check will be carried out during periods 2 and 4 by senior and middle leaders.

Mobile Phones

Students are allowed to bring a mobile phone to school to help keep them safe on the way to and from school. Mobile phones are not to be used on the school premises. If they are seen or heard the student will be asked to hand the phone over, it will be locked away and returned to them at the end of the school day.

If students need to contact their families at any point during the school day they can speak with a member of the pastoral team and use a school phone whilst supervised. If parents and carers need to contact their children, we ask that they call the school and ask to speak with their child's Director of Year or Assistant Director of Year.

Toilet Use and Passes

Students can use the toilet before school, at break and lunch as well as after school. If students have a medical condition requiring them immediate access to the toilet, we must have a letter from your child's GP or Hospital stating the medical condition, an image of the letter is sufficient and can be emailed to admin@temac.co.uk stating your child's full name and year group. This will then be added to our system including Class Charts. We will then monitor your child's use of this pass.

Detentions

Detentions are issued if your child's behaviour falls short of the standards and expectations of the academy. These standards are known as our REACH values and our expectation is that every student at the academy lives them. Our values reflect the standards and expectations of wider society.

Respect

Equality

Ambition

Care

Hard work

Detentions are either 30-minute or 60-minute in length. Detentions must be attended! If they are not the student will be placed in isolation the next day for the entire day. If your child has an appointment after school and cannot attend the detention, we will need evidence of the appointment from parents and carers. This evidence can be emailed to the school using the admin email admin@temac.co.uk

The Department for Education

The Department for Education makes it quite clear that students can be asked to return home briefly to comply with the uniform expectations. This is not exclusion, but an authorised absence. However, if the student continues to breach uniform rules in such a way as to be sent home to avoid school or takes longer than is strictly necessary to effect the change, the student's absence may be counted as unauthorised absence, and you may receive a penalty notice warning and fine in relation to that absence.

Where non-compliance is persistent the Department of Education does consider exclusion to be an effective response. This is of course something that we wish to avoid, and a number of items will be available for students in case of an emergency.

Our expectation is that students will change into these items promptly and therefore not jeopardise any loss of learning or additional consequences for failing to comply.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

G B Houghton

Ms G B Houghton

Deputy Headteacher, Behaviour and Culture