
12th July 2019

Dear Parents and Carers

North Walsham High School Uniform

Uniform is an important part of a school's identity. It reinforces who we are as a community and helps allow students to feel pride in their school. It also ensures students are not put under any pressure because of the type of clothes they wear and all are treated equally. It also helps prepare students for life after school where many will have to dress smartly for work.

We worked towards some basic principles. **Firstly, we are not changing the uniform**, just giving better guidance over the parts of uniform that you do not buy directly from school. Secondly, uniform should be practical and hard wearing and provide children with proper protection from the British weather throughout the year. Thirdly, parents should not be placed under pressure from their children to buy expensive designer brands of clothing because they say someone else in school is wearing them.

In essence, we need to support you in buying affordable, good quality clothing for school which your children accept they have to wear because the rules are very clear. We want to make it easier for parents and help reduce any issues there may be over what is and isn't acceptable uniform.

Our uniform consists of the following:

- Maroon blazer with the NWSH badge on the pocket
- Plain light blue formal shirt, short or long sleeved (shirts must be buttoned up to the collar and tucked in at the waist)
- School tie, tied with the large section facing the front (**5 stripe length**).
Ties may be borrowed from reception or the Student Support Leaders, failure to return the tie at the end of the school day **will incur a £5.50 cost which will be collected via WisePay.**
- **NWSH branded black skirt** – these are available in two styles and a variety of sizes, but should be **knee-length (we have asked the supplier for a longer length skirt, 69cm, to be added to the pencil style skirt)**; skirts should be worn with black tights or black ankle socks (not trainer socks)
- Plain black formal trousers in standard, or comfort fit (not tight to the skin); trousers should be worn with black socks, with no skin visible between the sock and the bottom of the trouser leg.
Students who are wearing inappropriate socks will be provided with correct socks. The first pair will be free of charge, but all subsequent pairs will incur a **£1 charge which will be collected via WisePay.**
- Flat black leather-type business shoes with enclosed toe and heel – **not soft leather. No leather Vans, Converse or equivalent please** (images of suitable and unsuitable shoes can be found on the school website)
- Belts, if worn, should be plain back with a small buckle.
- Pupils must have a sturdy backpack (**No handbags**)

Jewellery

- No jewellery is allowed, except a pair of plain, small stud earrings. No diamante. This earring can only be in the lower lobe and no other location. No facial jewellery is allowed.
- One ring is permitted as long as it is a plain band. Bracelets and necklaces are not permitted, unless they are for religious reasons.
- All jewellery and watches must be removed for all PE lessons.

Make up

- No make-up is allowed in Year 7, 8 and 9. Year 10 and 11 who can wear sensible muted make-up (this can be rescinded at any time as it remains a privilege not a right).
- Nail varnish must be muted and **acrylic nails will not be allowed.**
- **Spray can deodorants are not allowed in school and will be confiscated. Roll-on deodorants are permitted.**

We will be enforcing this new guidance very strictly when we return in September. On the first day back (**Wednesday 4th September**), we will check the uniform of all students on the gate. Any students not in the correct uniform will get a lunch time detention. This will continue each day of that first week, for those who arrive in incorrect uniform. We will contact you each day when uniform is not correct. If students arrive in an incorrect piece of uniform from the following week, (week beginning **Monday 9th September**), we will contact you and send them home to get the correct uniform, as we know you will have ensured they have it following this guidance.

We are sending this letter out now as we wanted to give parents the summer break to ensure that uniform is correct for the start of the new academic year. If you have any questions about the guidance, or if you are unsure whether a piece of uniform is acceptable, please do not hesitate to contact me before buying it.

We look forward to your support in ensuring all students are treated equally and trust the guidance makes things much clearer for everyone.

Yours sincerely,

Jo Lee
Associate Assistant Head
Lead for Behaviour