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Date: 03/02/2025

Dear Parent/Carer,

Improving Standards at TCSOA: School Uniform

Our school leadership team, alongside secondary staff and principal teachers have recently reviewed the implementation of our revised [2-18 Relationships Policy](#). Progress in this has been considered alongside the improvement actions identified during the Quality Improvement Review which took place in May 2024.

An action from the Quality Improvement Review read *“All staff should ensure consistent, high expectations for pupil engagement in the wider life of the school e.g., including in the wearing of school uniform and routines in punctuality and circulating the school building”*.

I am pleased to be able to provide you with an update relating to this work.

We have identified actions to help embed the shared behaviour expectations outlined in our relationships policy, with a particular focus on the levels of cooperation shown by pupils in relation to wearing uniform. You may have heard your child talk about this as it has been discussed at recent assemblies.

Our school uniform standard was reviewed during Session 2022-23. At this time, it was clear from stakeholders across our school community that the value of school uniform was recognised, and that most wanted us to be a school where pupils wear uniform every day. We considered introducing blazers at this point, however following the feedback received realised the majority of families were in favour of maintaining our existing standard.

National guidance on school uniform can be found [here](#). Our policy is in line with national best practice. We encourage uniform recycling, support pupils who find uniform wearing a barrier to attending school, and do our best to ensure that meeting our uniform standard is not a financial challenge for families.

Our uniform policy has been clearly communicated to pupils and families each year through letters and assemblies. We will be sharing it again with pupils and it can be viewed on our new school [website](#). To measure how many pupils are currently meeting our uniform standard and evidence improvement we will be introducing a monthly 'uniform audit'. Please [click here](#) to view the poster that will be displayed in school and referred to by registration teachers as part of uniform audits. This audit will involve registration teachers recording how many pupils were wearing full, partial, or no school uniform.

The school leadership team will also be meeting with pupils who aren't wearing full school uniform and will contact parents to try to ensure that, wherever possible, uniform issues are resolved. We recognise that this may result in some missed learning time, and we will do our best to keep this to a minimum. We do however believe it is important to prioritise uniform as a symbol of willingness of young people to be a part of our school community and cooperate with behaviour expectations.

Over the past few years, each time we have promoted our uniform standards, a number of parents have been in touch to share the specific challenges their child faces with certain aspects of wearing school uniform. Of course, we seek to understand and accommodate the needs of these pupils sensitively. We keep a record of any exceptions which are agreed, and ensure this information is accessible for staff. We always seek to ensure pupils who have an agreed exemption comply with as much of our uniform standard as they can.

If you wish to make us aware of a specific concern your child has about uniform, please complete [this form](#). Even if you believe you have shared this information previously, can I please ask that you do so again to ensure our information is as complete as possible.

We understand that clothing is replaced at different times throughout the year and not every family will be able to replace leggings, coloured trainers or sweatshirts with sports logos immediately. However, we would ask you to partner with us to ensure that, wherever possible, pupils receive the same message at home as they will be receiving at school. We very much appreciate your help and support in ensuring that any clothing purchased for school use meets our uniform standard.

I will update on further efforts to raise standards, including uniform, through 'The Pulse'. Given the focus we will be placing on this issue I did however want to write to you separately. Should you wish to discuss your child's ability to meet our school uniform expectations, please do not hesitate to contact us by emailing TCSoAContact@pkc.gov.uk and either myself or one of our Secondary DHTs will contact you in due course.

Kind regards,

David Lambert
Head Teacher