

21st July 2023

Dear Parent / Carer,

As we approach the end of the academic year and begin to prepare for the new autumn term, I wanted to write to you and thank you for your continued support regarding uniform. Standards of uniform in Tanfield School are extremely high and we will continue to have high expectations of our students when it comes to their personal appearance. We are very proud of how smartly dressed our students are and how they wear their uniform with pride. We believe our uniform provides our students with a sense of belonging and being part of Team Tanfield.

Visitors and members of the general public have commented on how smart our students look and I would like to thank all students and their parents/carers for supporting the school by ensuring that the correct uniform is worn every day. It is due to your continued support our standards remain high.

The Summer break is often a popular time for purchasing new uniform, as children grow out of their uniform all too quickly or uniform becomes damaged due to continual wear and tear. One of the aims of school uniform is to reduce peer pressure at school for the latest clothes. As fashions change and manufacturers push the boundaries for acceptable 'school wear' the challenge of maintaining a fair and consistent approach does not diminish and we reiterate the expectation that:

- Tanfield blazers are compulsory
- A long or short sleeved formal white shirt with a formal collar. Please note this must be a formal shirt that can be tucked comfortably into the waistband.
- School tie.
- Trousers must be formal (not tight leggings).
- Skirts must be the Tanfield Tartan and worn correctly (not rolled).
- Shoes should be plain black <u>formal shoes</u> (not trainers), heels no greater that 3cm. Boots can be worn with trousers only and not skirts.
- Plain black tights with skirts and plain black ankle socks with trousers (not trainer socks below the ankle).
- Tanfield PE kit top with plain black shorts or leggings (no large logos or stripes).

We appreciate that uniform can be costly for parents. For this reason, we have kept branded items to the bare minimum and much of our uniform can be purchased at a low-cost from a wide range of shops and supermarkets. If you intend or need to purchase new uniform ready for the next school year, please refer to the family handbook or uniform section on the school website.

Please do not be pressurised or convinced by your child to buy the incorrect uniform as this can be expensive if it does not meet our high standards regarding appearance and presentation.

We also have a small supply of 'pre-loved' uniform where items are available upon request.

When students return to school on **Tuesday 5th September 2023**, all students will be carefully checked for uniform, jewellery, hair/make-up and false nails/nail varnish.

Anyone wishing to get their ears pierced should do so at the <u>beginning</u> of the 6 weeks holidays so piercings can be removed before returning to school (a plaster, tape or a plastic retainer is not a solution to piercings and students should not get piercings done during or near-term time). False nails and nail varnish should also be removed before returning to school. If there is a problem, which cannot be put right in school, then parents/carers will be contacted and arrangements made for students to be collected in order to change into correct uniform or remove make-up/jewellery.

I am sure, like us, you want our students to continue to present themselves in a smart, professional way and will do all you can to ensure your child is in the correct full uniform. As always, thank you for your support.

Yours faithfully

Mr C Jones

Deputy Headteacher