

February 2023

Dear parents and carers,

Following feedback from parents and carers during our consultation in the autumn term, we are delighted to share with you key changes to our uniform policy. The changes we have put in place will allow us to achieve better value for money for all of our parents and carers across the trust.

As you will be aware consultation was undertaken in September 2022. We received 158 responses from Stokesley parents/carers, 184 from Richmond and 155 responses from Northallerton. The majority of parents who responded supported the principle of branded uniform to promote standards and the identity of each school. A number of parents felt that the number of compulsory branded items was too many across each school, skirts and trousers should not be branded, and that the number of branded PE items should be reduced. We have considered this feedback and acted upon it moving forward.

The significant changes in all of our academies are as follows:

- the number of compulsory items has been reduced to provide you with the opportunity to source the most affordable price;
- some compulsory items have been retained as you told us you value a uniform due to the sense of pride and identity it creates; and,
- we have changed supplier, following a comprehensive tendering process, to achieve value for money, now and in future years, against the backdrop of rising costs in materials and manufacture.

At Stokesley School, from September 2023, the compulsory items will now be restricted to:

- a blazer;
- a year group tie; and
- one PE top.

Trousers must be purchased in the **style and cut specified in the academy's uniform policy** and skirts must have a **full pleat all the way round**. Both trousers and skirts should be black.

All non-compulsory PE kit should also be purchased in black and in accordance with the academy's uniform policy.

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For the remainder of this academic year, our existing uniform policies remain in place. However, we recognise that parents will want to buy the revised items if they need uniform before the end of the year - in particular trousers and skirts. If this applies to you, please ensure you visit your academy's website prior to making a purchase from the High Street to ensure it meets the requirements set out by the individual academy leadership teams.

From 1st March 2023, our trust uniform supplier will be Michael Seghals. You can visit their website [here](http://www.michaelseghal.co.uk) (www.michaelseghal.co.uk). Purchases can be made online, and the company will also run pop-up shops and sizing events at each of the academies in the summer term (details to follow).

We hope these changes ease the financial burden upon our families and would like to thank you for your input into the consultation process. If you have any questions related to this update, please contact the school via office@stokesleyschool.org.

Yours sincerely



Mr. Richard Crane
CEO

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