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POTLEY HILL PRIMARY SCHOOL

Headteacher: Mr Brent Ellis

Thursday 6th February 2025

Uniform Policy Update

Dear Parents and Carers,

You might remember that back in November I included a link in the 'Weekly Bulletin' providing you with an opportunity to complete a survey in order for us to obtain feedback about the current Uniform Policy, which has been in place since I joined the school. The reason for seeking this feedback is that a school uniform plays a vital role in developing a sense of belonging amongst pupils, whilst also needing to be accessible and affordable for parents and carers, but over the past 18 months several parents have spoken to various staff members about this no longer being the case. In addition to this, it has also been noted that whilst the vast majority of pupils conform to the expectations outlined in the policy, there has been a steady increase in the number of pupils who do not adhere fully to all aspects of the uniform expectations, and this has been complicated further by some confused messaging and minor changes along the way, e.g. older pupils wearing PE kit to school, stockists promoting black trousers and skirts. Therefore, it became apparent that a review of the Uniform Policy was needed to make it fit for purpose for all pupils whilst also being affordable for parents and carers.

Your feedback was greatly appreciated and there were 76 responses to the survey. Following the collation of this information a small working group was set-up, which contained parents who had volunteered through the survey together with some members of staff. We spent time reviewing the outcomes of the responses to the questions on the survey, discussing any additional 'informal' feedback we might have individually received from the wider school community before focussing on creating an updated Uniform Policy which considers some of these possible changes. In addition to this, I also liaised with our uniform providers to seek their feedback on items they sell, the affordability of these together with trends they have noticed across a wider number of schools.

Due to the significant number of responses received from the survey together with the wider opinions and thoughts that have been shared across numerous forums, I am sure you will understand that it has not been possible to create a new Uniform Policy that will please every member of the school community. However, I hope that the changes made will make the Uniform Policy more coherent moving forward and provide clarity around responsibilities, whilst also being more affordable for all parents and carers.

A copy of the updated Uniform Policy can be found by [clicking here](#) and this policy will be implemented fully from September 2025. Due to the minor changes that have been made, both the current and **future updated** uniform policies **will run** alongside each other for the remainder of the school year so that parents have time to purchase any new items for September and make the most of any current uniform they have but the school uniform colours of navy blue, white and grey will continue to provide the central feature of the uniform at our school.

However, the key changes I would like to draw your attention to are as follows:

- **Updated School Logo** – with advancements in technology it was fed back through the survey that the logo currently on the uniform resembled outdated clip art. Therefore it has been refreshed and now more closely reflects the logo used on various other school documentations including on the school premises and the website.

(Any item of uniform that contains a school logo will always be classified as school uniform and there is no expectation that parents replace all items in time for September. However, all uniform moving forward will be embroidered with the updated logo).



Potley Hill Road, Yateley, Hampshire GU46 6AG
Telephone: 01252 876106/Fax: 01252 875187
Email: adminoffice@potleyhill.hants.sch.uk
Web: www.potleyhill.hants.sch.uk

- **Navy blue round neck t-shirt for PE** – the need for having only one colour for PE shirts moving forward is due to pupils in Year 4 - 6 wearing their PE kit all day and they need to look 'uniform' whilst in school. When wearing four different colours this is not the case, together with the current 'lighter' house colours on the t-shirts fading quickly. Also, PE kit is very often worn when pupils attend external sporting events and with one colour PE kit they will more closely resemble a 'team' rather than wearing a range of different colours.

(Pupils can continue to wear their house colour PE shirts until the end of the summer term but updated navy blue round neck t-shirts will be required from September 2025).

- **White polo shirts** – white polo shirts with a logo will no longer be made by our uniform providers due to the fact they are very rarely purchased. This is in line with trends seen across other schools with the rationale being that parents buy 'plain' polo shirts because they are usually covered by a cardigan or jumper.

(Pupils will still be able to wear white polo shirts with the school logo, if they still have one).

- **Bookbags and bags** – a smaller book bag and backpack will now be available to purchase

Whilst the changes to the policy detailed above include references to the school logo, I am pleased to say that it continues to be possible for children to attend our school without the need to purchase uniform items that include a logo. Within the updated policy it is clear to see which items can be purchased with a logo, but having plain items as part of the policy makes uniform more affordable to all our families.

At Parents Evening next week a sample of the new navy blue round neck PE shirt, together with other items of uniform containing the refreshed school logo. Once these items are available to buy I will inform parents whilst also adding pictures to the updated policy so it is easier to 'see' what the uniform expectations will be moving forward.

As with any change to school policy there are likely to be questions and queries regarding the arrangements, but I hope this letter explaining the rationale for the decisions together with the details within the policy itself help clarify school uniform arrangements for September 2025 and you can always consult the uniform section of our school website by [clicking here](#).

Yours sincerely



Mr. B Ellis
Headteacher



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