

Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2020

## Be Ready – Uniform Expectations

Dear Parent/Carer,

At Pembroke Academy we have high expectations of the presentation of our students. Our uniform code is well documented on the Academy website and in the Student Planners. I am happy to report that we have received positive feedback about how smart our students look from the local community and visitors to Pembroke over the last few years. This academic year we have needed to make temporary changes to uniform, like so many other aspects of life, due to COVID-19. I would like to highlight these changes.

During the school day all students should be wearing their standard uniform unless they have a timetabled PE lesson, in which case they need to wear their PE uniform. This is to avoid use of changing rooms to help stop the potential spread of the virus. As autumn turns to winter and the weather gets colder students need to be prepared for this. Pembroke fleeces and tracksuit bottoms are available from our uniform suppliers and students can wear plain navy blue sweatshirts/fleeces and tracksuit/jogging bottoms as well as these. We have also advised students that a navy blue 'base layer' may be a sensible addition to ensure warmth.

Part of our standard operating procedures currently include keeping classroom windows and doors open to allow for a flow of air through rooms, again to reduce the potential spread of the virus. This may cause obvious issues with the temperature within the classroom. I would like to advise that a base layer or 'vest' underneath the school shirt may provide extra warmth for students. A navy blue v-neck jumper can also be worn underneath the Academy blazer, as an option. I am aware that these type of jumpers are readily available from a variety of shops. We do not allow hoodies to be worn underneath the blazer, and coats should will only be worn in lesson times after consultation with a teacher and as a 'last resort'. Essentially it is a good idea for students to 'layer up' so they can have more control over their body temperature.

Beyond these temporary changes I would like to direct parents and students to the website and planner as a reminder about other aspects of our uniform. As a parent recently commented to me when praising our students' neat appearance: "if you look smart, you feel smart, and you work smart". That's a phrase I may be using in the future!

Kind regards,

N. 3'554

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