



Bassingbourn Village College

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**Mr D Cooper
Principal**

17th July 2017

Dear Parent/Carer

As the end of term is approaching I would like to take the opportunity to write to you with the recent changes we have made to our Expectations for Learning policy having reviewed it this year. The full document has also been sent with a Parentmail copy of this letter, or can be collected from reception.

Mobile phones

We have carefully considered our policy with regard to mobile phones. Mobile technology can be a valuable learning tool when used in the correct way in lessons and we do want this to continue. We however do feel that it can also be a distraction. Research shows that students should have time away from the pressures that a mobile phone and social media can bring. **We have therefore decided that between 8.45am and 3.30pm mobile phones and earphones are to be in bags and switched off and not seen in school. This includes lunch and breaktimes.** At the start of each lesson and tutor time students will be expected to hand in their phone and it will either be returned for use as a learning tool, or at the end of the lesson. If a phone goes off or is seen outside of lessons then it will be confiscated and parents asked to collect it. If students refuse to hand their phone in then they will be isolated.

Uniform

Students in year 11 have the privilege of wearing a plain black business suit and year 11 tie. The tie can be purchased on the first day of term if students bring in £6. If Year 11 students choose not to wear the current year 11 tie, then they will be expected to wear the normal school tie. Students choosing to wear skirts must ensure they are of an appropriate length for a business environment.

For students in years 7 – 10, trousers should be plain black school uniform style and material; we will not allow any leggings, stretchy material or jeans style (the style with the square pockets at the back). If the students choose to wear jumpers and/or skirts, they should be the school uniform ones with the logo on (cardigans are not part of school uniform).

Shoes

Shoes for **all** students need to be formal black school shoes, no sandals, canvas or trainer shoes will be allowed as stated on our uniform list. Heels should be no higher than 3cm and stilettos are not allowed. We also do not allow any shoes with logos or leather type trainers. (We have included photos at the end of the letter of the type of shoe currently being worn which will not be considered school uniform in September).

Incorrect uniform

Students not meeting our expectations will initially be given a warning and asked to purchase the correct items. If this does not happen then they will be asked to wear items from our loan scheme in return for handing in their mobile phone or bus pass for the day. Students who consistently wear inappropriate items of uniform or refuse may be asked to work in isolation until they have appropriate uniform. Parents will be contacted asking them to ensure suitable items are purchased.

Earrings and piercings

I would also like to reiterate the expectations with regards to earrings and piercings. Students are only allowed to wear one plain silver or gold stud in each ear. We do not allow any other body piercings, bars or ear stretchers on the grounds of health and safety. If a student does come into school with more than one piercing or other visible body piercing then they will be asked to remove them. For this reason can I ask if a piercing is being done, that it happens at the start of the holiday so that it can be removed if necessary. If students refuse to remove items then they will be asked to work in isolation.

I would like to thank all parents for their support in ensuring their child attends school in the correct uniform and representing the school in a smart and professional manner.

Confiscating property

If a student has an item confiscated in future then we will be asking parents to collect that item at their convenience. This includes mobile phones, items of non-school uniform, fidget spinners and any other item that disturbs learning. Reception is open between 8.45am and 3.30pm.

New term dates

I would also like alert parents to the staggered start days for the new academic year. Year 7 will start on Monday 4th September and the rest of the school Tuesday 5th September.

Yours sincerely



Ms V Poulter
Vice Principal

Examples of shoes that are not allowed (this is not an exhaustive list).



Leather trainers
Canvas boots
Canvas shoes
Black trainers with logo and stripes