

Thursday, 15 April 2021

RE: Look Smart, Think Smart, Act Smart

Dear Parents & Carers,

I hope that this letter finds you safe and well and that you and your family have had a restful Easter break. Students made a positive after returning to school following the period of online learning and teachers have been working hard with them to bridge any gaps in their learning.

I wanted to write to you at the start of the new term to reiterate some of the key messages around uniform and the importance for students to be correctly dressed at all times. At Heron Hall Academy we are very proud of how smart our pupils look when they wear our uniform.

We are very pleased to announce that with the support of our Trust we have been able to secure a number of uniform items at a significantly lower cost.

We understand how important it is at this time to keep the cost of school uniform items as low as possible. These items include:

- New lower priced blazer at £33.99, a huge saving of 52%
- Full new PE kit, with savings of £25

Helping Us

We ask our families to make sure that their children have all the uniform items that they need and that students themselves are aware of the importance of taking responsibility for looking smart. Please make sure your child understands that they need to wear their uniform correctly at all times.

The uniform policy has not changed since your student started at Heron Hall and this is simply a reminder of the expectations that our families agreed to when they took up a place at Heron Hall for your student.

A full copy of the uniform policy which will give you complete guidance is available on the website at www.heronhallacademy.org.uk/uniform-updated.

Uniform Expectations – A Summary

The school expectations around uniform are that students are dressed in the following uniform at all times:

- School blazer
- White shirt
- School tie
- Dark grey trousers or skirt
- Black leather school shoes
- School lanyard & ID Card (this has been provided to every student)



The only exception to the above is that during the current COVID-19 restrictions students are able to wear their PE kit on days that they have PE. They are expected on these days to still bring their school blazer and wear it at all times around the school building.

In regards to skirts they must be at least knee length and not tight fitting. They must be "A" line in style and may contain a pleat but must not have splits down the side or be made from lycra or lycra type material. Should a student wish to wear socks with a skirt these must be below the knee and black or grey. Tights can be worn if they are grey or opaque. These pictures show which types of skirts are acceptable.



Similarly, trousers must be smart in style, not tight or made from stretchy material and jeans and leggings are not permitted to be worn instead of school trousers. Again please see the below from the uniform booklet to show acceptable trouser styles.



Shoes

Students should not wear trainers unless there is a permitted reason. Should a student need to wear trainers to school on a day other than for PE this will need to be authorised by the Head of Year. You will need to communicate with the Head of Year via letter, phone or e-mail to ensure that the student does not get sanctioned for this.



Black trainer style shoes are not acceptable as school shoes and shoes that contain side branding (e.g. Nike or Adidas symbols) are also not permitted. Canvas shoes must not be worn and this includes converse and Vans. Below are examples of shoes that **are not permitted** to be worn as school shoes without prior authorisation.



PE Kit & Coats

Students have been permitted to wear their coat in the building due to the need for increased ventilation during the pandemic. However, as the weather gets warmer this will, at a point, cease to be the case. Students therefore need to always have their blazer. Students should not wear hoodies or other jumpers instead of a coat and these will be confiscated if worn inside the school building.

On days when students have PE they are able to wear their school PE kit but this must be the school PE Kit. Other branded sports items, football shirts, leggings or joggers must not be worn instead of the school PE kit. Below is the current PE kit:



Piercings, Nail Varnish, Hair Colouring, Makeup & Eyelashes

We have noticed an increase in students who are coming into the school with false nails, false eyelashes and piercings that do not meet the requirements of the uniform policy.

Students can have one piercing in each ear and must not have piercings on other parts of the face such as the nose or tongue. If students are caught with piercings that do not match the uniform policy they will be asked to remove them.

Students must not have false nails or coloured nail varnish and they will be asked to remove these at school, sent home or placed into isolation until they are removed. Similarly, students who are found



to be wearing false eyelashes will be asked to remove them in school or removed from lessons until they are removed. Examples of both can be seen here:



In regards to hair colouring this must be natural colours only. Students who come into school with colours that are unnatural, such as blue, will be asked to have the extensions or the colour removed. Students are also not allowed to shave designs into their hair or shave lines into their eyebrows.

Make up must not be worn in the academy. Where students are found to be wearing makeup they will be sent to the office to remove it.

New Suppliers for Uniform Items

We have worked hard to source new suppliers for our uniform items and branded uniform items can now be purchased from both our original supplier, Smiths Schoolwear on Lancaster Road, and our new supplier, Uniform4Kids located at 242 Hertford Road.

Non branded items of uniform such as trousers, shirts, shoes and skirts can be purchased from any retailer. Please make sure that for school trousers or skirts they are a grey that is in keeping with the colour of the school blazer.

I want to end by thanking the vast majority of parents who send students in every day in perfect uniform. When students take pride in their appearance it shows a pride in both the learning environment and the establishment. We are trying to encourage in students the skills needed for future success and the importance of smart dress can never be overlooked. Students at Heron Hall should always follow the mantra of Look Smart, Think Smart, Act Smart.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Barzey". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mr A Barzey
Headteacher
Heron Hall Academy

