Painsley Catholic College

Specialist Science College
Specialist Mathematics and Computing College
Principal: Mrs R Waugh BA (Hons). PGCE
CEO: Mr S G Bell, BA (Hons), PGCE, MA, NPQH

Station Road, Cheadle, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs, ST10 1LH
Telephone: 01538 493777
Email: office@painsley.staffs.sch.uk
Web: www.painsley.co.uk

Wednesday, 7th June 2023

Dear Parent/ Carer

I hope you have enjoyed the half-term break!

As a College, we believe that exceptional communication skills enhance the spiritual development, the life chances and opportunities of all in the community. The College uniform, worn with professionalism and pride, communicates a great deal about a student's self-discipline and personal responsibility. It teaches them to consider the impact of their choices on themselves and those around them. By adhering to the guidelines regarding uniform, students learn the importance of making choices that reflect maturity and respect for themselves and others.

Additional factors include:

Equality and unity: our uniform promotes a sense of equality amongst students. By wearing the same attire, students from different backgrounds are on an equal footing. It fosters a sense of belonging among students and encourages a sense of inclusivity.

Discipline and focus: uniform helps to support our sense of discipline and order within the school environment. It can lead to improved concentration and allow our students to flourish without potential distractions. We do not want any distractions caused by discussing uniform issues as we want to focus on spiritual, pastoral and academic development.

Reduced bullying and peer pressure: uniform helps to mitigate bullying and peer pressure and encourages students to be judged on their character and abilities rather than their appearance.

Safety and security: our uniform enhances safety and security within the college site and helps to distinguish Painsley students from other schools during field trips and events, ensuring better supervision.

Safeguarding: the uniform, worn correctly, teaches students to consider the impact of their choices on themselves and those around them. For example, by adhering to the guidelines regarding skirt length, girls learn the importance of making choices that reflect maturity and respect for themselves and others.

School identity and pride: Our Painsley Catholic College uniform contributes to a sense of identity and pride. It creates a visual, representation of our college and its values.

For the above reasons, it is the expectation of all students at Painsley Catholic College that our College uniform is worn appropriately **at all times**. This includes our legal right to enforce the uniform policy as students travel to and from school, in addition to attending any out of hours events.

There have been a number of consultations over the last few years and as a result of parental and student voice the following adaptations have been made to support families in our community:

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- The introduction of the standard clip-on tie for all students.
- The introduction of the College badge onto the college skirt.
- The introduction of an alternative College trouser as part of the girls' uniform.
- The removal of the candy striped shirt for all students for a more readily available plain white shirt.
- The phased introduction of the College PE kit.

In all cases, consultation was sought prior to the governors' approval of the uniform. Additionally, Department for Education legislation has been taken into consideration and a costing audit has been completed. As always, uniform is readily available in College for any student who requires it and financial support is available on requests for eligible students. Please do contact your son/daughter's pastoral lead should you require further help or guidance.

I would kindly requests that **all** students wear the college uniform appropriately at all times and that there are no adaptations made to the college uniform expectations. This is most especially noted in the length of girls' skirts, which must be worn to the knee (longer length of skirt is available) and the split must not be sown up and that boys' trousers are dark grey and not black.

As outlined earlier, I am sure you all appreciate the importance of maintaining our high standards and expectations both within the classroom and beyond. Your support in ensuring our standards and expectations are met is instrumental to our daily work and focus on your child's development.

I remind you of our expectations regarding the College uniform as set out on the College website:

UNIFORM INFORMATION

We firmly believe that a smart and distinctive college uniform helps to instil a pride and sense of loyalty to the college. In the long run, it is both practical and economical. One of the many advantages of college uniform is that it is clear to all concerned that each one of our students belongs to ONE college community, Painsley Catholic College. Your co-operation in helping us to maintain a consistently high standard of uniform will be greatly appreciated.

Girls

• White blouse with collar (ALL YEAR GROUPS)

• Clip-on college tie

• Black blazer including college badge

• Dark grey terylene skirts, Contemporary Trutex or Salisbury style—**KNEE length (20")** with logo embroidered below the waistband (NB: Jersey material is not acceptable) .

• Steel grey Signature Classic Banner trouser

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- Black shoes—no heels or sling-backs
- Black ankle socks, black/natural tights
- PE Kit (see PE Kit page)
- Optional—Grey long sleeve pullover, V-neck (not cardigan)

Boys

- White shirt
- Clip-on college tie
- Black blazer including college badge
- **Dark grey trousers** (not jeans, corduroy, canvas or fashion trousers)
- Black Shoes (not trainer style)
- Grey/Black socks (not white)
- PE Kit (see PE Kit page)
- Optional—Grey long sleeve pullover, V-neck (not cardigan)

Coats: Leather, denim, camouflage or service-type jackets are not suitable for college. Parents are asked to provide anoraks, overcoats, kagools or similar waterproof clothing to be worn **OVER** blazers.

No jewellery or make-up are permitted and long hair must be tied back. Please note that there should be no dyed hair or fashion haircuts (lines and patterns, gel, shaved head etc). **Boys' hair should be no shorter than a grade 3.**

Students will be issued with a year group badge which must be sewn on to their blazer.

All items of uniform may be obtained at:-

- Most departmental stores (except the girls' skirts, girls' trousers, college badge, tie, girls' skort, girls' PE leggings).
- The clip-on ties and badges are available from college (clip-on ties: £4.00 and badges: £3.00)
- National Schoolwear Centres—Hanley Branch, 99/101 Stafford Street, Hanley, ST1 1LS. Telephone: 01782 272991
- School's In (formerly Trutex, Meir)—29-31 Weston Road, Meir, ST3 6AB. Telephone: 01782 310111.

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- School's In (formerly Trutex, Stone) Unit 1, Emerald Way, Stone Business Park, ST15 0SR. Telephone: 01785 286700
- Something Special— Unit 4 Pine View, Hillside Industrial Park, Draycott Crossroads, Cheadle, Staffordshire, ST10 1AB. Telephone: 01538 752840

PE INFORMATION & KIT

Physical Education is one of the foundation subjects in the National Curriculum and is a compulsory subject for all students. There has to be sound medical reasons for not doing PE and students should always have a written note from home where exemption is requested. If not participating for any reason, students are expected to bring kit and be involved in the lesson in a coaching or officiating role. Any student excused on medical grounds for a lesson will study the theory of PE. We insist on the same high standard in PE kit as we do for college uniform.

Girls

- Navy & Red T-Shirt with college logo +
- Navy games skort with college logo +
- Red football socks
- Plain training shoes* (no pumps)
- Shin Pads
- Gum shield
- Navy Painsley Tracksuit with college logo + (optional)
- Navy girls PE leggings (AKOA) with College badge (optional—can be worn instead of skort)

Boys

- Navy & Red T-Shirt with college logo +
- PE shorts, navy (plain, no stripes) with college logo +
- Red football socks
- Plain training shoes* (no pumps)
- Shin Pads

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• Gum shield

• Navy Painsley Tracksuit with college logo + (optional)

+ These items must carry the college badge and are available through the college suppliers

All PE uniform may be purchased from the National Schoolwear Centre, School's In (formerly Trutex, Meir) and Something Special —for contact details, see uniform information.

** Not expensive fashion trainers or boots.*

Boys and Girls Optional – Jackets (fleece reversible and waterproof). These must have student initials embroidered on them. Note: these are NOT required but can be used in colder weather.

Boys and Girls—Gum Shields (Painsley stock basic gum shields).

*Girls—Navy Blue/Grey Leotard & Tights (Optional)***

We are committed to providing a safe and productive learning environment for all students, and we genuinely appreciate your cooperation and support in upholding these standards. If you have any questions or concerns regarding the dress code policy or any other school-related matter, please do not hesitate to contact us here at College.

Thank you for your continued partnership in your child's education.

Yours sincerely

R. A. Waugh

Mrs R A Waugh

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