Painsley Catholic College

Specialist Science College

Principal: Mrs R Waugh BA (Hons). PGCE

Station Road, Cheadle, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs, ST10 1LH
Telephone: 01538 493777
Email: office@painsley.staffs.sch.uk
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Friday, 16th May 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

It has been another beautiful week of weather in college and it has certainly lifted the spirits, especially for our Year 11 and 13 students, who are well underway in sitting their public examinations…we are all very proud of how you are managing and conducting yourselves through this important milestone.

It was amazing to celebrate with the Year 9 boys' football team, who lifted the County Cup after a 6-2 victory in the final on Monday. Well done boys, you did yourselves proud!

As we approach the final half-term of the academic year, I would like to 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
- Black shoes—no heels or sling-backs
- Black ankle socks, black/natural tights
- PE kit (see PE kit page)
- Optional—grey long sleeved 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 sleeved pullover, V-neck (not cardigan)

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

No jewellery or make-up (including fake tan and gel/acrylic/varnished nails) are permitted and long hair must be fully 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 are issued with a year group badge which must be sewn onto 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.
- 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

Whilst the vast majority of our students wear our uniform with pride, there are a significant number of students who do not wear our uniform appropriately.

As a reminder, our college uniform is important for the following reasons:

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

It is the expectation of all students at Painsley Catholic College that our college uniform is worn appropriately **at all times**. This includes travelling to school and home 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 alternative college trousers as part of the girl's 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 (please see the website for details)

In all cases, consultation was sought prior to the governors' approval of the uniform. Additionally, DFE 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 request for eligible students. Please do contact your son/daughter's Pastoral Lead should you require further help or guidance.

I would kindly request 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 sewn up and that boys' trousers are dark grey and not black.

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.

In the week ahead, our Bronze Duke of Edinburgh students complete their expedition, the Lourdes group depart on the Diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes, the follow-up visit to the National Space Centre for Year 7 takes place, we will be represented at the Good Shepherd Mass at St Gregory's in Longton and the Year 10 business students will be visiting Chester Zoo.

In the Gospel on Sunday (John 13:31-35), Jesus gives a new commandment: "Love one another; just as I have loved you, you also must love one another. By this love you have for one another, everyone will know that you are my disciples." How do we show God's love to others?

God Bless

R. A. Waugh

Mrs R Waugh