16 June 2022

Dear Parent/Carers

**Re: Uniform consultation**

At Bottisham Village College we expect all students to wear a school uniform to create a community we can be proud of. Every student should feel part of our school no matter what their background and wearing uniform avoids any peer pressure to conform to the latest trends and fashions.

You may be aware that the Government recently asked all schools to review whether their uniform is as affordable and sustainable for parents and carers and arrangements are in place for second hand (pre-loved) uniform sales advertised throughout the year.

The guidance outlines how schools should consider giving parents and carers the best possible value for money by:

* Taking into consideration all items of uniform parents need to provide for their children while at school and ensure it is clearly marked on the website whether it is compulsory or optional (optional items should be kept to a minimum).
* Reviewing the number of items which are branded with a logo and keeping these to a minimum.
* Ensuring our uniform suppliers give highest priority to both value for money, quality and sustainability. This contract should be tendered every 5 years.
* Informing parents of second hand (pre-loved) uniform sales.

To this end we have now reviewed our uniform, met with our uniform providers, held a student, staff and parent focus group and are ready to share the outcome of our consultation with all parents and carers. If you have any comments you would like to add on the link below we will consider these before finalising our consultation period which will end at **6pm on Monday 20 June 2022.**

[https://forms.office.com/r/5XyUpdFKqV](https://gbr01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fforms.office.com%2Fr%2F5XyUpdFKqV&data=05%7C01%7CJTaylor%40bottishamvc.org%7Cb743926f102a437730d908da4f72187d%7C8ba393df16e348e985d812aa9418ab73%7C0%7C0%7C637909648693557531%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=q92jO6aVVgfx1HeSxgFT0bN%2Fea%2FMQv5oqW5VSQAd%2Bkc%3D&reserved=0)

We very much hope this will make purchasing uniform more affordable, provide more choice for retailers, ensure all items are recyclable and sustainable and ensure the comfort and fit.

**Our proposal will begin from Wednesday the 22 June and will include all previously bought items being acceptable for the duration of your child’s or siblings time at Bottisham.**

From Sept 2022 we will reduce the amount of compulsory badged items from seven to four. These badged items can only be purchased from the BVC webshop only.

<https://www.totalclothingshop.co.uk/bvc>

Green polo shirt badged item

Green sweatshirt badged item

Black sweatshirt (if in Year 11) badged item

PE top with school logo badged item

**General uniform**

**Trousers**

To give more choice of cost and fit, trousers, traditional style, plain black, full length **do not now need to be badged** and can be purchased from high street outlets **or** BVC webshop.  **Leggings/jeggings, cropped trousers or black jeans or jogging bottoms will still not be acceptable.**

**Skirts**

**What’s changed**?

Our straight skirts (David Lloyd) with the logo will continue to be sold until stocks are exhausted. We are not recommending this style of skirt moving forward due to the issues with fit. In the parents focus group parents felt that having a different style of skirt would be easier for fitting different body shapes and therefore we have introduced a choice for next year.

**Moving forward:** Plain black, pleated or a-line knee length traditional style skirts. **These do not need to be badged and can be purchased from high street outlets.** **Skirts made of elasticated/stretchy material will still not be acceptable.**

**Shorts**

From the end of the Easter holidays until the end of the summer term annually students will be able to wear either their PE shorts alongside their normal uniform or black tailored shorts.

**PE Kit**

**We will not be reintroducing the branded Rugby shirt.**

**Moving forward:** you can buy the following items needed for PE from any high street outlet should you require them the only items essential for PE are the shorts/skorts all the other items are optional:

PE Navy sweatshirt (plain navy no large logos or stripes)

Navy blue leggings (plain no large logos or stripes, these can also be used for dance)

Navy blue jogging bottoms (plain no large logos or stripes)

Navy blue shorts (plain no large logos or stripes, loose style)

Navy blue skort (shorts with skirt overlay)

Sky blue or white socks

**Please note** that the school will provide any extra PE kit required for fixtures and events.

**Pre-loved sale**

We will continue holding our ‘pre- loved’ uniform sale after school. Our next sale is on **Monday 18 July** (further details of this event will be circulated in July) . As always we would be very appreciative of any uniform that you would like to donate to this event.

Students suggested the possibility of when purchasing a year 11 black sweatshirt this could be offered at half price if they swapped with a good quality green sweatshirt. We are looking into the ways we could do this.

For your information our uniform suppliers make recycled polyester from plastic bottles and use it to make your school uniform! We are also removing all reference to gender from our uniform webpage and our website.

The final outcome of this consultation will be sent out to parents on **Wednesday 22 June.**

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely



**Jenny Rankine**

**Principal**