



June 2022

Dear Students and Parent / Guardian.

Staff and students have been looking at our Uniform Policy and, following consultation, there are a number of changes to policy from **September 2022**. These changes are all reflected in our updated Uniform Policy, which is available on our website.

1. Compulsory uniform for the year 2022-23 will continue to be the SCHOOL JUMPER or HALF ZIP, TROUSERS or SKIRT and the BLUE SHIRT. However, the 2022-23 year will be the last year that students are allowed to wear the school half-zip outside of PE / Sport time. The school half-zip will be permitted as an alternative to the school jumper (if worn with the school shirt) in 2022-23, but I encourage you to opt for the jumper instead. The school jumper, as always, will be required for formal occasions during the next school year.

*(From 2023, there will not be an option to wear the school half-zip or any other item of the PE uniform in class. From September 2023, the compulsory daily uniform will be the **school jumper, trousers or skirt** and the **blue shirt**. This is for hygiene reasons.)*

2. Following many requests from parents / guardians, the SCHOOL JACKET is now available in a number of different weights, with or without a hood. A student may **ONLY** wear the school jacket to, from and in school.
3. As a direct response to requests from students for more comfortable and up to date uniform items, we are **increasing** the number of options available for students and players for PE, training and matches. We have introduced fabulous new leggings, shorts, T shirt, training top, half zip and skort. Students may choose their own preferred items for PE and extra-curricular activities.....or for leisure wear at home. We have also made a selection of kit bags and school bags available, as optional items. PE uniform is compulsory for PE....but the choices are plentiful. Please see www.oneills.com
4. Currently, school policy does not allow for facial piercings **of any kind**. As a direct response to the large majority of students who responded to our recent survey, there will be some flexibility in this area from September 2022. From September 2022, students may wear a discrete stud in the nose, if they wish. Students will be required to comply with teacher requests to remove a nose stud for PE, sport or for certain formal occasions.
5. School policy in relation to other pieces of jewellery remains. Please note that over-sized rings, bracelets, necklaces or earrings are not permitted for health and safety reasons. A piercing in the brow, tongue or lip or a ring / bar in the nose will not be acceptable, for health and safety reasons.
6. Students may continue to wear a mask, if preferred. Unless there is a medical note to the contrary, this must be a school mask, available from the school office.

There will be a return to vigorous implementation of Uniform Policy in September 2022, following the flexibility of Covid, and I look to you for your support in this. Students who are not in correct uniform are required to ask a parent / guardian to contact their Year Head via the school App to explain. Regrettably, there will be sanctions for students who have repeated uniform violations.

School Uniform Policy.....WHY?????

- Less body-competition
- Less sub-cultures and exclusion
- Sense of belonging to our school
- No competition for labels
- Quality clothing options
- School identity in our region and country
- Formal school environment
- Answering student requests for modernisation
- Hygiene
- Health and Safety

With every good wish,

Caitriona Morgan-O'Brien.

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Principal.