



5th June 2025

Dear Parent/Carer(s),

Following the recent consultation regarding our school uniform, we would like to inform you of several important changes that will take effect from September 2025.

Firstly, in line with the feedback received from parents and carers and from students and our commitment to ensuring our school is inclusive, we are removing gendered approaches to our school uniform. To this end, all students will be required to wear a collared shirt and tie. This means the reverse blouse will no longer be part of the school uniform from September. School ties can be purchased from our usual uniform suppliers: **Claddish** or **Hewitts**.

With regards to socks, we would like to clarify that we will **not** be changing to black socks. Students wearing skirts should continue to wear white socks. Additionally, we ask that students wear either black tights or white socks—never socks and tights.

To help differentiate between year groups, we will also be introducing blazer pocket badges, which will be either a pin badge or an iron on badge. These badges will be provided by the school.

As previously communicated by Ms Marrill, we are also changing our approach to mobile phone use in school. From September, all students must place their phone in a secure, signal blocking school branded pouch for the duration of the school day. These school pouches form part of our equipment list and must be purchased through ParentPay at a cost of £15.80, which can be paid either in full or in instalments. Please visit parent pay to purchase your child's pouch ready for September. If you are in receipt of free school meals, please let us know if you would like support to purchase your child's phone pouch.

The use of a mobile phone pouch will enable our school to be truly mobile phone free. Students will not have the distraction or temptation of looking at a mobile phone during the school day. We know that, despite our already stringent mobile phone policy, many students access their phones in the day, often in the toilets. This year alone mobile phones have been confiscated over 500 times at our school. Young people are often addicted to their phones and the number of notifications they receive a day can be damaging for their wellbeing and mental health. Having a signal blocking pouch means that students will be truly free of their devices in the day supporting them with learning and wellbeing. We are also concerned about student safety and want to promote our school value of self-reliance. In utilising a school pouch the mobile phone remains the responsibility of the student. Students will release their phone at the end of the day

and there should therefore be no need for confiscation meaning that no student will be left without their phone for their journey to and from school.

Please note that should a student's phone be seen or heard during the school day (i.e. it has not been placed in a school pouch) it would then be confiscated until the end of the half term. The only exception to this rule will be for students with diabetes who use their phones for medical purposes.

We encourage you to speak with your child about the importance of using their phone pouch responsibly. [This article](#) is a useful read about the use of mobile phones in school.

We thank you for your continued support in helping us create a focused and respectful learning environment. If you have any questions, please contact your child's form tutor in the first instance.

Yours faithfully



Mrs M Edwards

Deputy Principal



Ms K Marrill

Principal