

August 2020

Dear Parent or Carer,

### **Wellsway School Uniform Reminder**

We are looking forward to welcoming our students back at the start of the new academic year. I do hope you have been able to enjoy a break with your children, and I am sure parents will no doubt have already enjoyed or been looking forward to the annual trip to the shops to source uniform and school shoes! I would like to take this opportunity to remind you of some key parts of the policy. The intention of this is to avoid unnecessary confrontations at the start of term with students returning to school in September not dressed in accordance with school uniform policy.

Our school uniform is an important expression of our pride in ourselves as a school and we expect all students to be in correct uniform. Students who are not correctly dressed in September (and during the year) will be sent home to correct their uniform or internally isolated until the issue can be resolved. We would very much appreciate your support in ensuring that your child is sent to school correctly dressed. Teacher time spent challenging uniform distracts from our principle purpose of teaching and learning. The details for areas of the school uniform that some students struggle with are set out below for clarification and the complete uniform policy can be found on the school website:

<https://www.wellswayschool.com/assets/uploads/files/policies/Uniform%20Policy%20July%202020.pdf>

<https://www.wellswayschool.com/assets/uploads/files/policies/Appendix%20A%20Uniform%20Policy%20Feb19.pdf>

**Trouser styles** do not include Jeans, leggings and other casual styles are inappropriate as are fabrics such as lycra, jean fabric or jersey. The fabric between the knee and ankle should be loose, bootcut style or flared.

**School shoes:** Plain black formal leather flat shoes (no trainers, no ballet pump style shoes, no boots, no suede shoes, no daps and no canvas shoes). School shoes are particularly expensive, but we have had some issues this year with parents spending a lot of money on footwear which clearly does not take note of the school's policy. Indeed, we are told that many retail outlets promote these trainer like shoes as being 'school shoes'. In our view, footwear of this type is not formal and is consequently not appropriate for our school.

In order to clarify this we have posted some images via the links below of acceptable and unacceptable guidelines:

<https://www.wellswayschool.com/assets/uploads/files/policies/Acceptable-Shoes-Policy.pdf>

We would very much like to avoid this as it puts the school at odds with the student which is not what any of us would wish for and is a negative start to the term for all concerned.

**Jewellery:** Students are not permitted to wear jewellery at school (including rings and bracelets). The exceptions to this rule are that students may wear a single stud in each ear. Students will be required to remove any items of jewellery which contravenes this code; they will be confiscated until the end of the school week.

**Nose Studs/Facial Piercings:** Jewellery as a result of any facial piercing (including tongue piercing) is not acceptable. Taping over a facial piercing, covering it with a plaster, or using 'clear' jewellery is not permitted.

If you do decide to allow your child to have additional piercings please ensure that they are removed for school. This will be strictly enforced in September and students not correctly attired for lessons will not be allowed to attend lessons until the issue has been fully resolved. Again, I should stress that this is absolutely the last thing we want as a school as we all place great emphasis on good attendance to school and to lessons.

**Make Up:** Make up of any description is discouraged; discrete personal make-up will be allowed on students. Students will be required to remove any excessive make up. Nail varnish is not allowed. False nails are not allowed. Please do not send your child to school wearing false nails.

**Hair:** Hair must be natural coloured, shaved patterns in hair or eyebrows are not permitted.

All school uniform items will be available to buy from the Scholars Bath Shop, 4 Terrace Walk, Bath, BA1 1LN (01225) 462206) or online: <http://scholars-uk.com/index.php>

Under exceptional circumstances we understand that students may require to loan a pair of school shoes, tie or blazer to ensure they are able to comply with school uniform expectations. Students can loan any of the above items on a daily basis if they go to the Isolation Room (Glastonbury) between 8.30am - 8.40am. Please note that students will not be able to loan an item outside of this time period, and they will be sent home to correct their uniform or internally isolated until the issue can be resolved.

If a student has a medical issue which means there is a requirement to be exempt from wearing the correct uniform then a letter from the parent/carer should be submitted to the tutor on the first day that this is required. Within five school days the parent/carer will be required to submit a letter from the GP which states the medical diagnosis and the required duration of the school uniform exemption. Students will be issued with a uniform card by their tutor if the above protocols are followed. Subsequent letters from the GP detailing any further required exemptions will need to be submitted by the parent/carer after the period covered by the initial letter has expired. If the letters from parents/carers are not submitted within the required timescales then the school response will be as though the student has chosen to not comply with school uniform expectations.

We are very proud of our school and of our students and believe that high standards of uniform, behaviour, being properly equipped and attending regularly give each and every one of our students the very best chance of learning well and achieving their very best.

Thank you all very much in advance of your anticipated support and understanding. I wish you an enjoyable last few days of your summer break.

Yours faithfully,



**Mr Woodville**  
**Principal**