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**THE BULWELL
ACADEMY**
*Creative
Education
Trust*

12 March 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

Setting Expectations

I write to request your help in making sure our **basic expectations about uniform and mobile phones** are supported by parents and carers.

The reason I write is that over recent weeks we have seen a decline in these standards, and we want to do something about it, to ensure our expectations remain high.

UNIFORM

Whilst most young people in the Academy arrive smartly dressed, in the correct uniform, with equipment and school bags, a number are not. The issues we are addressing are as follows:

- Incorrect footwear, including white trainers and coloured trainers.
- Incorrect trousers or skirts, including leggings / jeggings with white ankle socks and skirts which are too short.
- Pupils without a blazer
- Pupils without a tie
- Pupils wearing hoodies or sports jackets instead of a blazer or wearing these under a blazer
- Pupils without a school bag and equipment
- Pupils arriving to school wearing part of their PE kit if they have PE the same day.

We therefore need your help. If your child is leaving home in the morning inappropriately dressed for school and you know they have the correct uniform at home, could you please make sure and insist that they arrive to the Academy dressed in full uniform, including the school bag and equipment. If they have PE that day, their kit should be in their school bag, ready for them to change into.

If your child no longer has the correct uniform, could we ask that you do your very best to provide it. We have a uniform swap shop in the Academy that can provide recycled uniform for a fraction of the cost, or by swapping something to the equivalent value. If you have any items you can donate to our Recycled Uniform Shop, we would be very grateful as we are running low on items. You are welcome to view our recycled uniform at any point during the school day. You can find out more ways of sourcing free or more affordable uniform here: bulwellacademy.org.uk/recycled-uniform-shop.



We also loan uniform, including footwear whenever we can – but our resources have run low. In a year we can spend a great deal of money in making sure pupils have the correct uniform, but, as you will understand, we cannot do this all the time.

After the Easter break, we will be checking uniform more closely when pupils arrive. Please help us by helping your child if you need to.

We also know that pupils should be responsible for their own uniform. If pupils are not in uniform, we will be contacting you and addressing the issue with your child.

We will also be rewarding an increase in Bulwell Bucks for children who are always in full uniform.

We expect all pupils to always be wearing the following:

- The Bulwell Academy blazer
- White shirt
- The Academy tie
- School v-neck black jumper (*optional, but NOT IN PLACE OF A BLAZER*)
- Black school trousers or knee length skirt
- Black footwear

All pupils should have a school bag and equipment.



MOBILE PHONES: 'SEE IT, HEAR IT, LOSE IT.'

Pupils can bring a mobile phone into the Academy, but it **MUST BE OUT OF SIGHT** and not used at all during the school day.

Pupils should turn off their phone and place it in the bottom of their school bag before coming through the school gates.

We know that most pupils do this every day and parents are supportive.

The reason we are dealing with this, however, is due to a small number of pupils using their phone during the school day.

We also know that pupils use smart phones for social media, and this can often be a distraction from learning and the academy, along with yourself, often must deal with the fall out of unkind and negative comments.

Increasingly so, a small number of parents and carers will ring their child during the school day or send a text and this can cause an issue as the pupil will need to respond, especially if it is an informal communication.

Could I respectfully ask parents not to contact pupils directly whilst at school, and we too will be sharing this with pupils. In the case of an emergency only, we will contact you directly when your child explains the situation.



We know that mobile phones are an excellent way of making sure your child is safe after school, but not during the school day, and parents tell us this. This is the reason we support pupils' having phones with them, but we need to make sure that they do not impact negatively on their learning.

If your child is seen using their phone, it will be confiscated for the remainder of the day, when it will be returned to the pupil.

As an Academy, we have always been proud of the excellent uniform worn by our pupils.

In partnership with our parents and carers, let's please work together, to make sure we remain proud.

You can view our full Uniform Policy and Behaviour Policy below:

- [Uniform Policy 2023-2024](#)
- [Behaviour Policy 2023-2024](#) – please view Appendix One for our local behaviour procedures

You can view a reminder of the letter sent last week regarding mobile phones in school:

- [Mobile Phones in School \(Friday 8 March 2024\)](#)

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Mr C Keen
Executive Principal