

Thursday 20 July 2023

Dear parent / carer,

You will be aware that we changed our school uniform policy in January, in line with the Government guidance, so that we offer a logo and a non-logo option.

We will continue to offer a logo and a non-logo option next year. However, the **only non-logo skirt option that will be permitted is a box-pleat style**. This is because it is taking a significant amount of time each day to check uniforms, make sure that our policy is being up-held and ensure that our students look as smart as possible. The decision to move to the box-pleat skirt will remove the confusion with the distinction between a tube skirt and a pencil skirt and ensure that time, at the start of the day, will be spent having positive conversations and accessing precious learning time from the moment students enter the academy.

From September 2023, the guidance on skirts is as follows:

Outwood Logo options

Available to purchase from the Trutex store.

The Trutex website <https://www.trutex.com/> offers a pencil skirt and a pleated skirt (the pencil skirt will not be available from September 2025 so this will be the last year of this design).

Non-logo options

2.5-inch box pleat style ONLY. Minimum length 18 inches (most secondary school students would need a 20-inch length). These are available from almost all supermarkets and from websites such as Amazon. (Search: Box pleat school skirt).

Please note that any other style non-logo skirt will not be permitted.



I hope that by informing you of this change at this relatively early stage enables you time to purchase the correct uniform for September. However, if this represents an issue, please do not hesitate to contact the academy; the best way to do this is via email at enquiries@hemsworth.outwood.com

It is important that all students are ready for September with the correct uniform and equipment. Students must wear a tie, blazer and have a bag with equipment for learning ready to show at the academy gate or in tutor time. We have a 'school shop' open between 8.00 and 8.25am where they can purchase school equipment. Should students be in a situation where they need to borrow an item

of uniform from the school store, please be aware that from September should this not be returned within a week it will be credited to a student's iPay account.

In addition, in response to student voice I have taken the decision to allow clear studs from September 2023 for students with piercings. This is to support positive conversations; to ensure students can continue to look smart and be ready for learning. Please note that no other jewellery is permitted with the exception of a wrist watch. I would ask for your support in ensuring that your child adheres to this adaptation to the current policy. All students must remove piercings for PE lessons to ensure they adhere to our risk assessment.

May I take this opportunity to wish you a happy summer break and look forward to seeing students return to us in September.

Yours faithfully,



Suzie Day
Principal