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Richard Brand: Headteacher

7<sup>th</sup> March 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

### **Amendments to School Uniform Policy for September 2022**

At The Dean Academy we aim for the highest standards across all aspects of education provision. We believe that the very highest standards of dress and a smartly worn school uniform are important. I am writing to inform you of a change to school uniform that will be introduced from September 2022. This letter is to give you advance warning of the change and to ensure that, if you are buying items of school uniform between now and the start of the new academic year, you are aware of the new requirements.

Following extensive consultation with parents and students, who both support our continued drive to raise standards of uniform, we wish to ensure that we have a cost effective, smart uniform that is a representation of the high standards we uphold. We have also listened carefully to feedback from students and parents in terms of choice, comfort and cost when arriving at this decision.

The predominant change we are making is the introduction of a standard school skirt that will be provided by our school uniform supplier, Monkhouse. Monkhouse supply our black school trousers, in a range of fits, which are already within the policy, so this change seemed logical. This design was unanimously chosen by a large sample of our students and was welcomed by parents who we spoke to, with one commenting, "it helps parents as there is only one". From September 2022 for any students who wish to wear a skirt they will be required to wear the model shown below. For students who choose to wear trousers the expectation is unchanged. Please note, that black skirts will no longer be part of our uniform and may no longer be worn from September 2022. In addition, every student will be given a new house tie, free of charge, to promote our house system which has been such a huge success this year.



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As we know this change will present a financial cost at a time when cost of living is increasing, we have managed to negotiate a discounted cost of £9 for any skirt which is bought for September 2022. We are working directly with Monkhouse to arrange for stock to be brought to our school which can be tried on and bought directly from us to remove the need to visit the store in Gloucester. We will write to you in due course and invite parents/carers into school.

As always, if any family is struggling with affording any aspect of school uniform or equipment cost should never be a barrier. Please contact us and we can support in a number of ways (for example, bursaries, payment plans or nearly-new second hand uniform).

I hope the advance notice of this new requirement will enable you to plan your uniform purchases for the new academic year. There will be further communication over the coming weeks, but we felt it was important to keep you informed throughout the whole transition period. Thank you in advance for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

**Richard Brand**  
Headteacher

RJB/TW - amendments school uniform-070322





THE DEAN  
ACADEMY

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