

22nd December 2023

Dear families,

I would like to start this letter by thanking the whole community for the support you have given the school during the Autumn Term, and for your continued patience whilst our major canteen refurbishment is ongoing. It has been an incredibly busy and long term, that at times has presented us with some challenges. Like me though, I hope you can see the progress being made in many aspects of what we are doing.

This week, the school has been celebrating achievement and attainment in our end of term reward assemblies. It has been fantastic to witness so many great things getting recognised within these events. Seeing the smiles on the faces of so many of our students as they received awards has been incredibly heart-warming. Many families will also be receiving individual letters of congratulation because of outstanding attendance, punctuality, and conduct during the term. It was a pleasure to write these letters and I was humbled by the work ethic and dedication of many of our students.

As we look towards the new term, we want to continue to uphold our values of Ambitious, Proud, and Caring. This starts with how our students present themselves, so in the new year we will be having a clear focus on uniform and appearance. Our uniform details can be found on the website and nothing within our policy on this has changed. Can I draw your attention towards some key areas in the table below.

Item	Detail
Shoes	Sensible, plain, black leather or PVC leather school shoes with sensible heels (height 3cm). They must be plain black shoes and if they have laces, they must be black. The ankle bone must not be covered by the shoe.
Trousers	Standard V-neck jumper without branding.
Jumpers (optional)	Black V-neck jumper without branding.
Make-up	Subtle make-up is acceptable at KS4 – this is natural foundation and includes clear nail varnish.
Tie	Worn at all times.
Blazer	Worn at all times.
Hoodies	Not allowed on the school site. They will be confiscated for the remainder of the day if seen.
Shirt	Tucked in at all times.
Coats	Must be removed before entering the classroom.

I know from speaking to the community that families want our students to uphold exemplary standards and I once again ask families for their support on this matter. Students often ask me why I believe that having a shirt untucked, or having long acrylic nails will affect their progress. I don't, but what I do know is that school is about developing life skills for the future and many workplaces will have their own expectations within this area. It also builds a sense

of community within a school, and most importantly when students get the basics right such as uniform, they tend to flourish in the other aspects of school as well.

When students return in the new year, they will need to be in correct uniform and uphold these standards. Those students who do not have the correct uniform will either need to get it sent in from home or borrow spare uniform. Pastoral teams will be working very closely with families to ensure that students are able to follow these rules correctly.

In the new year, we will also be looking to expand our community offer. This term we have seen our students volunteering in all kinds of ways to support local causes such as tree planting, promoting the Hub in Newport town centre, and running bingo sessions at Newport Cottage Care. Reviews and pictures of these activities can be seen on our weekly family bulletin alongside the huge array of activities which have taken place during this term. If you don't already read this on a weekly basis, can I urge you to do so. It is the focal point for all key information and showcases our students at their best.

Finally, can I extend my best wishes to families during the Christmas period. I hope you are able to have a restful, peaceful, and positive break. You all deserve it!

Your sincerely,



Ben Morgan
Acting Principal

