

16th April 2013

Dear Parent / Carer

Senior School Uniform

Welcome to the start of the new school term.

Over the course of the last year I have been delighted by the support of pupils, The Parent Council, The Parent Teachers' Association, the Dress Code Leadership Group and all the staff in the design and development of a new school uniform for all pupils.

During this time pupils were invited to design and subsequently vote on their preferred uniform style. The new designs can be seen on the school website.

We believe there are five good reasons for wearing a school uniform.

1. Pupils who wear a uniform take more responsibility in maintaining a positive school environment. This improves the school climate with an increased sense of pride and sense of school community.
2. This positive school environment increases achievement. Taking away the distractions of what to wear to school means that pupils feel less insecure about the way they dress and have more time to focus on learning.
3. When all pupils wear the uniform there is less emphasis on trying to fit in with the latest styles, pupils can simply be equal with each other. It decreases peer conflict.
4. Uniforms are cost effective. Pupils can wear the same outfit every day or alternate with another for a very low cost.
5. Uniforms are safer and more practical for lessons in school.

There is a new school uniform for students (S5/S6) pupils. This comprises :

- Mintlaw Academy blazer
- Mintlaw Academy tie

- White shirt
- Mintlaw Academy black jumper/cardigan (optional)
- Black trousers or skirt
- Sensible black shoes

ALL senior students are expected to wear a blazer. Blazers will be supplied directly from the school at a cost of £40, however they can also be leased for a deposit £10 for the year which will be redeemed when the blazer is returned. Clothing Grants are available for parents or carers on a lower income to help with the cost of buying a school uniform. For more information, please go to <http://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/parentscarers/financial/clothing.asp> or contact the school. Cheques can be made payable to Mintlaw Academy.

If students wish to wear a jumper / cardigan it must be the Mintlaw Academy embroidered version. No other types of black jumpers / cardigans / sweatshirts are allowed.

The following is not acceptable;

- Facial piercing items.
- Provocative items and clothes with offensive slogans or drug/alcohol-related logos which are inappropriate for school.
- Casual/leisure wear (eg denim jeans/jackets, cropped tops)
- For safety reasons, excessively long and baggy trousers, stiletto heels, large loop earrings or garments made of flammable materials.

Our supplier will be in school on Thursday 25 April to measure up and receive orders for all students who intend to return for a 5th or 6th year. Times will be arranged for students who are staying on to see the supplier.

Please can you complete the attached order form and pupils should bring this and a £10 deposit with them on Thursday 25 April.

The uniform packs will be delivered on Wednesday 5 June and all students will be expected to be wearing the new uniform from **Tuesday 11 June.**

Yours sincerely

Alan Horberry
Headteacher