



The High School
Leckhampton

March 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Uniform update - March 2024

I am writing to you with some important information regarding uniform at The High School Leckhampton. As all our families know, since opening the school we have always placed great importance on our uniform, because it engenders a feeling of belonging and a sense of pride in the school community. It has been designed to promote a collective identity, where every child feels included and that any differences in family income are not apparent. For that reason, we don't welcome fashion items, so that no pupil feels excluded or self-conscious because their families cannot afford the latest accessories. The items in our uniform range have been chosen in order to provide a smart, durable, working outfit for school that represents good value for money for our parents.

There is a clear expectation that students attending The High School Leckhampton will wear the full uniform appropriately and I'd like to thank you for your support in ensuring your child has the correct uniform and wears it with pride. At a parent forum in the Autumn term, we discussed uniform, and there was much praise for the items in our range and how smart our pupils look. We regularly receive compliments from visitors to the school about how our uniform is worn, and we believe that high standards in this area contribute to a culture of high aspirations and the calm and purposeful atmosphere in lessons. The Ofsted Inspectors who visited us recently were full of praise for our smart uniform and how proudly our pupils were wearing it.

We are committed to continually improving our school and consequently, review our uniform on an annual basis. Please read the following information carefully, as it is intended to let you know about some small changes to our uniform policy that will come into effect soon and remind you of the support available. We are hopeful that these changes will be welcomed by all our families.

Additional Uniform Supplier

We are pleased to confirm, that we are welcoming Bateman's Sports of Stroud as our second uniform supplier after the Easter holidays.

Parents of pupils in Year 8 and 9 will know that we were sorry to lose the services of Universal Uniform as a key supplier of uniform to the school, when they sold their business last June. The team at Universal had worked closely with the school since we opened, and we always found them to have excellent customer service. Since then, we have been seeking a second supplier who has



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the same approach, to provide an additional option for our families alongside our existing contract with Monkhouse. This supplier has been carefully selected according to:

- Their ability to provide items that are good quality, represent good value for money, and that they can evidence a reliable supply chain
- Their customer service
- Their approach to the environment and sustainability

Bateman's Sports is a family run business, having opened in 1893 and currently serving 6 other secondary schools in the Stroud area. We have met with Andy Bateman and this team several times over the last 2 terms and taken references from the Headteacher's of the schools they supply. All feedback has been excellent and we are confident that Andy and his team will be helpful and supportive with our families.

Whilst we appreciate Stroud is much further afield than our previous and current suppliers, Bateman's Sports has an excellent online ordering platform. During term time, the company will deliver items to school every Tuesday, free of charge, and we are happy to keep items at reception for parents or pupils to collect **from Wednesday onwards**. They will also be offering a pop-up shop at HSL on **SATURDAY JULY 13th (10.00am – 3.00pm)** for families to come in and try on items and place orders.

Their website is now live with HSL items. Please don't be alarmed if items appear to be out of stock, we have been assured that stock has been ordered. If you would like to place an order for an item that appears to be out of stock please just pick up the phone to them 01453 764320. Please see the attached ***School Uniform Guide*** for information about Bateman's and their services.

Uniform policy update

We are making 2 small changes to our uniform requirements, which take effect from September 2024.

1. Firstly, we will no longer be requiring branded trousers for boys and girls. By removing the branding, we are confident that our suppliers will have more trousers in stock. Previously, they have been cautious about buying too many trousers and being left with unsold branded items, as we are such a small school. We are still recommending parents purchase the following brand of trouser, as these conform to our requirements, represent excellent value for money and we are told by our parents that they are very good quality:



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Boys – 3 suppliers

- i. **Bateman's** – David Luke (959 – the HSL Slim fit **charcoal** trouser – JNR or SNR)
- ii. **Monkhouse** – Banner (Senior Boys Trousers in **charcoal**)
- iii. **Marks and Spencer's** – (boys regular leg in **charcoal**)

Girls – 3 suppliers

- i. **Bateman's** – David Luke (995 Two Pocket New Senior Trouser in grey)
- ii. **Monkhouse** – Banner (Trimley trousers in grey)
- iii. **Marks' & Spencer's** (girls slim leg in grey – **NOT** jersey material)

2. Secondly, we are making our rugby shirt an optional item for girls and boys and removing the requirement to purchase it in the house colour. Consequently, our suppliers will be selling a sky-blue reversal rugby top that parents may wish to purchase for pupils to wear when playing rugby or football during their PE lessons. The school will be purchasing team rugby kit for those pupils competing for the school, who do not choose to purchase it.

Pre-loved uniform

I am very grateful to the PTFA, who have been sorting and selling donations of pre-loved uniform that have made their way to school. This is really important way of reducing waste and keeping costs low for all families. As the trousers and blazers are long-lasting, we would really welcome any donations - which can be sent to reception at any time. If you would like to know what is in stock at any time, please can you email admin@hsl.gloucs.sch.uk and we will contact the PTFA on your behalf.

Pupil Premium Support

If your child is eligible for pupil premium support, for example if they have had free school meals at any time in the last 6 years, then we can provide some additional support with the cost of items for school, including uniform. Please just contact the school on the admin email, letting us know your requirements and we will contact you to discuss how best we can help.

Yours sincerely,

Helen Wood

Headteacher



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