



# Harlington Upper School

Headteacher  
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Dear Parents,

## School Uniform

You may remember that I asked for feedback on making it a requirement that trousers and skirts are purchased from our recommended stockist and that skirts and trousers have a small embroidered school badge. I was grateful for the feedback received and there was strong support for enforcing a high standard of uniform. Some parents supported the proposal and some did not, although there was no strong consensus. However, the following helpful points were raised:

- It is important that the price of school uniform is competitive. The requirement for a logo or one supplier should not significantly increase the cost of trousers or skirts compared to similar clothing in other shops;
- The trousers and skirts supplied may not be available in the required size for an individual child;
- Parents appreciate some flexibility.

From a school perspective it is clear that many students are bought uniform that is incorrect and in some cases inappropriate. Our whole-school uniform policy is undermined when just a small number of students wear incorrect uniform, and this inevitably leads to a lack of consistency.

After discussing this in depth and considering all feedback it has been decided to amend our policy from September to require all trousers and skirts to be purchased from our recommended supplier, Prestige Design. However, given the feedback the following points will apply:

- We will closely monitor the prices charged by our supplier and compare them to other suppliers;
- Uniform will be available in a variety of ways, for example on-line or in-shop;
- We will provide financial support to families for uniform as appropriate <http://www.harlington.org/financial-and-other-support> ;
- A few parents genuinely struggle to buy trousers or skirts that fit, perhaps, for example, because their child is very tall and slim. We have therefore arranged with Prestige that they will stitch the logo onto any item that we have authorised.

This information has been shared with students today. The policy will actually bring Harlington in line with a similar requirement in most other local upper and middle schools and will ensure that our students look smart and ready to learn. We will provide more detailed information in June.

We look forward to your support regarding the improved implementation of this important policy.

Yours sincerely,

Shawn Fell  
Headteacher

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