



# Sir Graham Balfour School

Member of Sir Graham Balfour Multi-Academy Trust

Our Ref: LDB / VM

1<sup>st</sup> December 2016

Dear Parents and Carers

As I have mentioned in previous newsletters, at Open Evening and in discussions at Parents' Evenings, we intend to change our School uniform from September 2017. I, alongside our Governors and Trustees, as well as many students and staff, do not feel that our current uniform reflects our high aspirations and our standing in the community. Many of you have told me that you feel our uniform makes our students appear to be the 'poor relations' to all other students in Stafford. On this basis we have been carrying out detailed research with regard to suppliers, availability and value for money.

I have been tasked with looking at possibilities for a smart uniform which includes a blazer, shirt and tie and shoes (rather than trainers). The chosen colour for the blazer is a dark blue, reflecting the 'Balfour blue' colour. Having compared the colours of readily available skirts and trousers, we feel that the best match to the dark blue is grey. We are currently looking at ties and badges and are awaiting samples of blazers coming from suppliers.

One of our key priorities is making sure the new uniform is readily accessible and value for money, hence we have been in close contact with Stafford's supermarkets to check whether they stock grey trousers and skirts, as well as light blue blouses and shirts. We have positive responses so far from all. Indeed, Tesco and Asda have also informed us that they have even larger stocks online.

At this time, we have no intention nor plan to change the existing PE kit.

We plan to bring these changes into effect from September 2017 for the new Year 7 and the current Year 7, 8 and 9. We do not feel it appropriate to ask parents to buy a new uniform for current Year 10, which they would wear only for one year; they may, of course, choose to do so.

I would like to invite you in to have a first look at our new uniform in the New Year, at which time we will be able to give you more details on suppliers and costs. Unsure of the numbers who will attend, I would like to invite parents of current Year 7 and 8 to come in on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> January at 6.00pm; for those students currently in Year 9, parents are invited in on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February, again at 6.00pm. Both meetings will take place in the Hall.

At present, I have given you all the information I have to hand. If you have any further queries though, please email [headteacher@sirgrahambalfour.staffs.sch.uk](mailto:headteacher@sirgrahambalfour.staffs.sch.uk). All queries on the school uniform will be collated and responses to all questions will be published on the website as well as emailed to you.

Yours sincerely

**Mrs L Beck**  
**Headteacher**