



28 April 2022

Dear Parent/Guardian

School uniform proposal

Prior to the Easter break, Maiden Erlegh Trust consulted with you about a new uniform policy. This was drawn up in response to new requirements for schools to ensure that uniform is affordable and inclusive. As a result of parental feedback, the policy was finalised and can now be found [here](#).

Following the adoption of this new policy, the next step is for the school to outline any changes for September 2022. The purpose of this letter is to outline our proposed changes. Once we have received feedback, we will then finalise our plans.

The uniform at Maiden Erlegh School in Reading is very smart and our students wear the uniform with great pride, so we are not proposing huge changes to the uniform, but rather a reduction in the number of branded, and therefore more expensive, items.

In line with the Trust policy, we will no longer publish gender specific uniform lists. We have consulted with students on our thinking and are now in a position to have a final consultation exercise with you as our school parents.

We propose that the new uniform will consist of the following:

Mandatory branded items

- Maiden Erlegh School in Reading blazer (boy or girl cut)
- School tie
- PE/Sports top (boy or girl cut)

Mandatory generic items

- White shirt or blouse
- charcoal trousers or charcoal shorts or charcoal pleated skirt (can be worn with salwar)
- Grey socks
- Black polish-able shoes

For PE:

- Navy PE Shorts
- White sports socks
- Football boots
- Non-marking trainers
- Shin pads and mouth guard

Optional branded items

- MER school bag (available through the school)
- MER PE Bag (available through the school)

Optional generic items

- Navy pullover
- Navy headscarf

Our personal presentation requirements remain the same, namely:

- That the school uniform should be worn appropriately (e.g., ties done up, shirts tucked in, shoelaces tied etc.)
- Well-groomed hair/facial hair (no extreme styles)
- One small silver/gold stud in each ear only; no other jewellery should be worn to school
- Natural coloured hair
- No make-up or nail varnish except light foundation

[Stevensons](#) will continue to stock the mandatory branded items. Otherwise, other items can be purchased in general clothing shops or supermarkets. We will also share our uniform list with other suppliers (e.g., online suppliers) and if any supplier chooses to stock our items, we will let you know.

We believe that this new uniform policy will lead to significant savings for families (on average around £50-£100).

In addition to the new uniform list, we hope to be able to provide opportunities for parents to purchase/obtain second-hand uniform. We will inform you of arrangements for this in the near future and we hope to have this facility in place during the new academic year. This service will rely on donations so we would ask you please to consider saving uniform items as and when your child grows out of them to donate.

Finally, I wanted to assure all parents that as the new uniform proposal sees a decrease in requirements for mandatory items and no change to the items themselves, there is no problem with students wearing their current uniform.

In order to make a final decision in time for parents buying uniform for next year, please give your feedback [via this form](#) by 9am on Monday 9 May.

Yours sincerely



Mr A Johnson
Headteacher