

25th November 2022



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Headteacher: Ms Helen Bridge BA MA

Dear Parent/Carer

As the weather has started to turn cold and at times, rather wet, we've noticed that students have started to arrive at school in clothing that is either unsuitable or not within our uniform expectations. This letter is giving you information on two aspects of our current uniform policy in school:

1. **Our policy for PE and full uniform**
2. **Our guidance for staff and students in school in classrooms under the current circumstances**

1. Our uniform policy

This can be found on our website here:

<https://resources.finalsite.net/images/v1590126870/southamcollegecom/ovtegw44gg55xf5w0c1n/Uniform.pdf> There is also a clear outline of the school's PE uniform:

<https://resources.finalsite.net/images/v1590126870/southamcollegecom/ndv5kf3xmdyktpbiajwa/PEKit.pdf>

Please note: There has been no change to the expectations of uniform this term except that students continue to be able to wear coats in lesson at the discretion of the teacher. Our uniform remains a key part of the ethos of the school. In summary, this means that:

- Hoodies and sweatshirts are NOT allowed in school – we will be moving to a no hoodie/sweatshirt stance from Monday 29th November 2021.
- Students will, however, be able to wear coats inside the school building. These should be taken off on entry to a classroom unless permission is given by the teacher to keep these on.
- School shoes should be black and leather (or suitable alternative) NOT canvas pumps or trainers, even if they are black.
- Black jeans, tracksuit bottoms (other than on PE days) or canvas trousers are NOT part of the school uniform.
- On PE days, students should wear plain black tracksuit bottoms or leggings only. (not multi coloured or any other colours)

If students need additional layers in cold weather, it is advised that they wear a white/cream T-shirt or thermal underneath their school shirt.

2. Our guidance for staff and students in school in classrooms under the current circumstances

The government guidance continues to focus on the importance of 'Always keeping occupied spaces well ventilated.' This is to prevent transmission of the virus.

Staff have been advised that classrooms should have doors and windows open to ensure air flow and ventilation. The heating is currently turned up and in some rooms we have had to turn the thermostats down due to the warmth.

In terms of the uniform expectations inside classrooms, they are the same. Students should be wearing their shirts, ties, black jumpers and a blazer in lessons (unless they are too warm). If they become cold after that, they can put on a coat or additional layer. This must not be a hoodie or logoed sweatshirt.

A number of students are currently flouting the school uniform policy and the guidance for working in cooler classrooms; for example, by wearing trainers with their normal uniforms or wearing hoodies in classrooms. Please can you reinforce the policy and expectations with your child(ren) and ensure they have appropriate warm clothing that can be worn both in school and whilst on break and lunch. During social times, all students have the option to sit in the dining area or the main hall but before school they do have to wait outside unless extreme cold or rain.

Please be advised that unsuitable uniform will be addressed with the students; if hoodies are worn in school they will be confiscated until the end of the day.

I do strongly recommend that students wear a coat or suitable outside layer to school in order that they can stay warm. Thank you so much for supporting us in maintaining uniform standards at the school; it's much appreciated.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Henry Gowney-Hedges".

Mr H Gowney-Hedges
Deputy Headteacher