

Solway Community School

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6th January 2016

Dear parents/carers

You may remember that back in October I asked for your opinions on the possibility of changing the uniform to include the option of students wearing a white SCTC polo shirt. We had an astonishing 86% of parents respond which is fantastic – thank you to everyone who voiced an opinion.

Of those who responded, around 65% said they would like the option of either wearing a shirt and tie as we currently do but also the alternative of a white polo shirt. It was generally agreed that a shirt and tie look smart when worn properly, but the ease of a polo shirt would be good also. In addition, the majority of those who expressed a preference said they would prefer to be able to buy polo shirts through school.

With that in mind, we will from January be stocking in the school office white polo shirts with Solway embroidered on. Students will be able to opt to continue to wear a shirt and tie as they currently do but if they choose this option I will insist that shirts are worn with the top button done up and the tie pulled up.

I have delayed bringing in these changes to uniform until now as Miss Cross, subject leader for PE has also been looking into alternatives for an updated and modern PE uniform which she has now sourced following consultation with the students. Miss Cross is making several changes:

- We will be phasing out white PE shorts for boys and they will wear navy blue ones for both inside and outside sports.
- For girls who prefer not to wear a skort, black sports leggings can be worn.
- We are also offering new navy outdoor waterproofs with the school logo and students' names embroidered on them in response to student requests and will be phasing out the old rugby shirts.

While the new outdoor kit is not compulsory, students will, as currently, not be permitted to wear an alternative outdoor top or any other leggings. All kit, including school polo shirts, can be ordered from Wendy in the office. If you wish to order the new navy outdoor kit for this academic year please could we have orders and payment by 5th February? The next order for outdoor kit will be placed in June ready for the next academic year. We hope our new, professional PE kit will not only look good but impress our competition!

Can I also take this opportunity to thank all those students who are consistently smart and well turned out – they are a credit to themselves and the school and I am proud of the way they look. And finally, having relaxed the rules on nail varnish I am glad to say this has become a battle of the past and is no longer an issue at school. Well done everyone!

Please contact either myself or Miss Cross at school if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely



Judith Schafer
Headteacher