



King Henry VIII Senior School
Warwick Road
Coventry
CV3 6AQ

Headteacher: Jason Slack BSc, MA Ed

17th April 2018

Dear Parents,

Thank you to those parents who attended the recent Sixth Form Dress Code Presentation Evening. For everyone's convenience I have attached a copy of the Sixth Form Dress Code Policy, together with the presentation, in case you missed any of the key information. We have also included a 'frequently asked questions' section which will also address any questions or concerns that you may have.

Following on from the presentation evening, the School Shop will be open for the fitting and ordering process. This will take place from Monday 18th June to Friday 22nd June from 5.00pm to 7.00pm each night during a special twilight opening, specifically for King Henry VIII families.

Mrs Helen Zgraja, the manageress at the school shop, will be present with her team each night so that your son/daughter can try on the different ranges and styles before completing an order form. You can choose whether or not you wish to make a payment for the suit at this point. The suits will then be ordered and for those that have pre-paid, they will be ready to collect from the School Hall on GCSE results day on Thursday 23rd August. Those that require payment can be collected from the school shop.

We are confident that in using the School Shop that all students can receive a high-level of personal attention through the fitting and ordering process. The suit range has also been chosen through conversations with parents and pupils. It allows a lot of flexibility and choice, allowing our students to look both smart and professional in the Sixth Form at King Henry's.

If you have any questions, please contact Mrs Dowding, Mrs Heathcote or myself at school.

Thank you for your support,

Mr P. Dearden
Deputy Headteacher

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: Why do the Sixth Form have to wear a uniform?

A: We quite deliberately call the clothing range the 'Sixth Form Dress Code' to differentiate from the 'School Uniform' where there is no choice of what to wear. We offer a wide range of more than 11 colours/patterns in different styles, so there is plenty of room for individual choice. However, the overall impact is that our students are smarter, more purposeful and better prepared for the world of work after they leave school.

Q: Can I only buy a Sixth Form suit from Number 57 Schoolwear (the School Shop)?

A: Yes. All students at King Henry's in the sixth form must have purchased their suit from the School Shop. We have chosen a choice of ranges which allows a lot of flexibility on style and fit, whilst still allowing for individuality, through choice of shirt/blouse. We have chosen the Skopes range, stocked through the School Shop, because we believe their suits are smart and in keeping with the high standards we expect of our Sixth Formers.

Q: Why can't my son/daughter choose their own suit?

A: We have tried this in the past but we have found that students misinterpret the dress code and we begin to have more conversations with them over clothing, rather than having discussions about the pastoral and academic issue which we think are more important.

Q: Why can't we get the suits from another high street retailer?

A: In addition to the answer above that we want to ensure that our students look as professional and smart as possible and we have chosen a range of suits that allows this. Suits from other retailers do not meet our expectations on this standard of dress for our students. We also know that the partnership the School Shop has directly with Skopes means the price of the suits will be cheaper than from a High Street retailer.

Q: How do I know that the suits will fit?

A: We have arranged for a fitting week at the School Shop when students and parents can come and view the suits, to speak to the staff and to try on the suits. There are a range of styles to suit every shape and size of student. Q: I am not sure if my son/daughter is coming back in the Sixth Form – what do I do?

Q: Why can't we just wait until the end of August to choose suits?

A: Despite the speed of the modern global supply chain, the School Shop may not be able to get the right size of suit at short notice in late August. In order to have a suit to wear at the start of Year 12, we recommend that you pre-order now and pay later.

Q: I have heard that there were problems with the suits last year?

A: We had issues with our previous supplier Burlington in regard to the quality of their customer service, price and quality. With the School Shop now taking on the responsibility for the fitting, ordering and purchasing, we are confident that this will be different this year!