

VH/NE

05 June 2018

Dear Parent/Carer

SCHOOL UNIFORM/ MOBILE PHONE REMINDER

Porthcawl is a traditional school and it is our school policy that all children wear school uniform when attending school, and on most occasions, when participating in a school-organised event outside school. Parents/carers will be informed via the trip/visit letter when school uniform is not required at an event. We provide a complete list of the items needed for school uniform in our school prospectus, information booklet and pupils have a copy of this list in their pupil planner. The full uniform policy is on the school website under Pupils – Uniform.

Before purchasing next year's uniform I would just like to remind parents/carers of a few lines from the uniform policy.

The school does not permit children to have 'extreme' haircuts and unnatural hair colours.

A suitable plain, dark coloured coat may be worn as outerwear to and from school. No hoodies, leather or denim jackets.

Trousers for boys and girls should be plain, classic school- style trousers. These should be straight legged and not a tight, 'bootleg', 'drainpipe', 'ankle-grazers' or 'jeans' style nor should they be 'low-rise'. There should be no large belts or buckles and socks should be black, dark blue or grey.

Skirts should not be tight, slit, or made of stretch fabric. The hem of the skirt should be no more than 5cm above the knee.

The school wants the pupils' footwear to be in keeping with the smart appearance of the school uniform. Shoes should be flat and black and made of leather/ leather-look material. We do not allow pupils to wear trainers or canvas shoes because we think this footwear is appropriate for sport or for leisure wear.

On the subject of mobile phones, the school recognises that mobile phones and digital devices are an integral part of young peoples' lives and that they can have considerable value in relation to safety and enhanced learning.

There may be instances where teachers wish to utilise mobile phone technology to aid teaching and learning at relevant moments of study. However, mobile phones can also have a hugely detrimental effect on the focus, concentration and the engagement of young people. This can then seriously affect their learning.

Please see below our rules regarding mobile phones:

Should you agree for your child to carry a mobile phone to school they must be clear on the following rules and sanctions:-

- The mobile phone is the responsibility of the individual and the school will not be liable for any lost, stolen or damaged items.
- Mobile phones must be switched off throughout the school day (including break and lunchtime) and kept in a safe place.

- Mobile phones are only permitted during lessons if the class are invited to use their phones for a specific task that relates to their learning.
- A mobile phone being used during the school day without permission risks being confiscated. If this becomes a recurrent problem the mobile phone will need to be collected by parents/carers at the end of the school day, from reception. Persistent disregard for this rule may lead to further, more severe sanctions.
- Use of mobile phones to engage in cyber bullying is not tolerated and may result in the phone being passed to the police.
- In the case of illness or an emergency pupils should go through the correct channels and parents/carers will be contacted by a member of staff e.g Head of Year, First Aid.
- If a pupil is “included”(removed from lessons) for a day then their mobile phone will be confiscated and placed in the school safe until the end of the school day.

We hope very much that we will have your continued support in both these matters.

Yours faithfully

Mrs V Hunt
Assistant Headteacher