

Good afternoon Parents/Carers,

Some parents and pupils have raised the issue of adapting/relaxing school uniform during the current hot weather conditions. Therefore, I felt it would be best to explain the school's current position.

In previous, met office, officially recognised 'heatwave' conditions we did allow pupils to wear their P.E. kit. However this did present problems that we are not keen to repeat:

- PE Kit is nylon and is hotter to wear than the cotton short-sleeved shirts. Most pupils only have one P.E. kit. If they had P.E. that day then they would move on to other classroom-based lessons in the same kit used for P.E., which proved very unhygienic. It is far more hygienic and comfortable to change from P.E. kit into a fresher cotton shirt and trousers/skirt.
- Girls tended towards wearing athletics shorts, which, while fine for the athletics track and PE lessons, are not appropriate to wear around school.

There has not been a declaration of a heatwave. However, for the above reasons I would be reluctant to move towards PE kit being worn full time in school. I would reassure parents that classrooms and the school buildings are cool areas. There are water fountains where pupils can replenish their own water bottles, and cold water and cool drinks on sale in the canteen. There are shaded areas outside where pupils can sit and we do allow the use of caps and sun hats outside the building in hot weather.

We are happy to consider the proposal of a summer school uniform, should sufficient parents wish to suggest it. This could potentially be used in the final half term of the year. It would potentially comprise of a polo shirt/existing short-sleeved shirt and tie, with tailored shorts. However, I have been reluctant to propose this at present given the current cost of living crisis and passing the burden of additional uniform costs on to parents on top of the existing cost of uniform.

In the meantime, the standards of uniform have improved significantly in the school. Pupils present themselves very well. Even during this hot weather they continue to uphold these very good standards – well done!

I hope this helps parents and carers to understand the schools position. We will continue to work with you, together, to provide a positive educational experience and excellent standards of conduct and behaviour.

Kind regards,

Dave Williams

Headteacher