

May 2022

Dear parents and carers,

Following our consultation regarding the Witchford Village College uniform, the senior team have spent significant time considering the responses alongside recent government guidance surrounding affordability of school uniform. As always, we welcome and appreciate your feedback, and are pleased to be able to announce significant changes to our uniform arrangements as a result.

The consultation highlighted many key areas of concern that we have addressed with our new uniform purchase process.

We have summarised our responses to parent concerns raised below, and hope this reassures you that we have listened carefully to feedback and responded appropriately.

You said...	We did...
<i>"Uniform items are poor in quality and do not last"</i>	The new uniform is much higher quality and will last longer.
<i>"Availability of items is lacking"</i>	We have requested additional stock from the supplier to be held in store.
<i>"Communication difficulties with supplier"</i>	Uniform will be available for purchase in person at Paul Day Sport, Ely from Friday 13 th May
<i>"Late deliveries caused problems"</i>	
<i>"Inconvenience & difficulty returning items"</i>	
<i>"No option to try sizes before you purchase"</i>	
<i>"Too many compulsory branded items"</i>	There are now fewer compulsory, branded items with support available to assist with the cost.
<i>"Overall cost too high"</i>	The new total cost for compulsory, branded items is lower than previously and the overall cost is significantly below the national average for school uniform.
<i>"No payment schedule possible"</i>	Paul Day saver scheme allows for payment to take place across the year prior to collection (ask in store for more details).
<i>"Transition period for the new uniform is too short"</i>	Current years 8 to 11 are not required to change their uniform; the change will be 'rolled in' starting with new year 7 and is currently optional for year 8-11 next year.
<i>"Second-hand uniform will not be available for at least a year"</i>	Paul Day Sport will be selling new 'legacy uniform' at second hand prices.

We are particularly conscious that balancing affordability and quality is of crucial importance to families in our community, now more than ever. Please rest assured that the college is here to help in this regard.

We have already been in touch with many families to offer individualised, discreet support: **if you have any concerns whatsoever regarding the affordability of uniform items please do not hesitate to get in touch with us.**

Please see the attached fact sheet for further details regarding uniform at WVC from September.



Richard Auffret
Head of School