

TLA / GPA

4th January 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

Uniform Expectations

You may recall that I wrote to all parents, back in September, reminding everyone of our uniform expectations. Across the Autumn Term it has been pleasing to see that the vast majority of our students are adhering to our uniform requirements and are maintaining our standards. I should like to thank you for your support with this, particularly those parents who have checked with us when purchasing new items or have replaced items that were unsuitable.

Unfortunately, there have been some exceptions to this, and we were starting to see a slight decline in the weeks leading up to Christmas. The main areas of concern were inappropriate footwear, students with no blazer, an array of hoodies and sweatshirts and leggings or very short skirts.

Therefore, can I ask you to ensure that your child returns to school tomorrow or on Thursday wearing the correct uniform, with particular attention to the following features:

- Trainers and other forms of casual footwear are not permitted; students must have a pair of **black leather or leather-look shoes (not boots)** for school. We saw a number of students wearing biker-style boots, Doc Martens, etc. in December and these are not acceptable. We have a supply of loan shoes and any student not wearing shoes will be offered these as a replacement. They are kept clean and maintained similarly to hired shoes at a bowling alley and we feel this is a suitable short-term solution for those whose shoes have broken unexpectedly or who are waiting for ordered shoes to arrive. Any refusal to wear loan shoes when offered will be viewed similarly to other forms of defiance, however, the best way to avoid any such situation is to ensure that your child comes to school wearing appropriate footwear.
- Girls may wear **plain black trousers or a plain black knee-length skirt, but neither should be tight-fitting or made from stretchy material, and leggings are not permitted. Jeans and jogging bottoms are not acceptable**, for boys or girls.
- Students may wear a plain black, V-neck jumper **under their blazer (but NOT instead of their blazer)** for extra warmth, or alternatively, wear a base layer under their shirt. **Sweatshirts, hoodies and tracksuit tops are not allowed** and will be confiscated.
- We recommend that every student has a coat for the winter. Since ventilation in classrooms remains a key element of our ongoing Covid control measures, we do allow coats to be worn indoors, **but not hoodies, sweatshirts, etc., including the Alec Hunter sweatshirt, which may only be worn for PE.**
- Make-up in Years 9, 10 and 11 should be subtle and **no student should be wearing false eyelashes, false nails, nose studs** or any other jewellery apart from a plain stud in each ear lobe and a watch.

ALEC HUNTER ACADEMY Stubbs Lane, Braintree, Essex CM7 3NR.
t: 01376 321813 e: admin@alechunter.com w: www.alechunter.com

We will continue to focus on uniform when we return, and students will receive a sanction if they persistently contravene our rules. We will contact individual parents/carers where issues can be resolved easily and may either request that you bring the correct uniform to school or seek permission for students to go home to change. If you require financial support with purchasing uniform for your child, please contact Mr Booth: ABooth@alehunter.com.

Please may I stress that with so many other concerns occupying our thoughts, we really do not wish to spend our time addressing uniform issues. We would much prefer to focus our efforts on teaching and learning, so everything you can do as parents to avoid us wasting time on these matters by ensuring your child complies with our rules will be greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your support with the above matters; please do not hesitate to contact us, via the Main Office, if you have any other queries or concerns.

Yours sincerely,



Mr T. Lawn
Headteacher