



NOTTINGHAM UNIVERSITY
SAMWORTH ACADEMY

Friday, 17 January 2014

Dear Parent(s) and Carer(s),

I am writing to update you on some of the changes here at NUSA, and to ask for your support in our drive to raise standards.

In many ways, the start of this term has been more like the start of a new academic year. Pupils have been re-organised into new mentor groups and new teaching groups, and we have a brand new timetable. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our pupils for the manner in which they have supported these changes. Their attitude has been fantastic, and I hope they are starting to feel a real difference in the way their learning is organised.

Along with these structural changes, we are also working hard to raise the standards of teaching, and of pupils' behaviour and attitudes to learning. With that in mind, we are now turning our attention to some of our basic expectations of pupils, namely their appearance and how they use their planner. I hope that you agree that the way in which pupils present themselves affects the way they approach their studies. Our experience, and a wide body of research, shows that pupils who take pride in their appearance are more focused and make better progress in lessons.

In order to clarify our expectations of uniform, I have attached a copy of our Compulsory Uniform List for your information. Please also see overleaf for a letter from the PE department. We very much appreciate the support that you give us with school uniform, but we have noticed some pupils arriving with items of incorrect clothing. Can I particularly remind you that trainers and hooded tops are not part of our dress code, and therefore should not be worn in school. Over the coming weeks uniform will be monitored closely, and sanctions will be applied to the minority of students who do not meet with our expectations.

We will also be working to develop students' organisational skills. We expect all pupils to learn how to use their planner to organise their time and work, with a particular focus on pupils recording their own homework. Students were given a planner in September, to last them for the whole school year. If a pupil loses their planner, they are expected to purchase a replacement from reception for £2.

I look forward to meeting more of you in the near future, as we work together to ensure our pupils' future successes.

Here is a reminder of upcoming events at NUSA:

Year 11 Parents' Evening	Tuesday 28th January 4-7 p.m.
Year 9 Options Information & Parents' Evening	Thursday 6th February 4-7 p.m.
Year 8 Options Information & Parents' Evening	Tuesday 11th February 4-7 p.m.

Yours sincerely,

Mark Trimmingham,
School Leader – Pastoral



Dear Parents and Carers,

NUSA PE department is updating our health and safety policy regarding students' clothing and equipment, in line with the AfPE Quality Mark guidelines. Although students have always been encouraged to wear studded boots, shin pads and gum shields for certain activities we are now making it compulsory.

Students who have football, rugby/tag rugby, lacrosse or a sport on the field from this term onwards must have studded boots. This is to prevent students slipping on a muddy field and injuring themselves and others. These do not have to be new boots - they may be borrowed from a family member, friend or from school.

We understand that not everyone will have the funds to buy their own studded boots or be able to acquire some. Therefore we have a very small number of football boots for students to use within their PE lesson. This will be on a 'first come, first served' basis within each lesson, so students must ask as soon as they enter the changing rooms.

Students must also wear shin pads for hockey and football. Again, we do have small number of shin pads within school that students can use for the lesson if they are unable to purchase their own.

Students are strongly advised to wear gum shields for hockey and will need them for lessons involving contact in rugby. These can be purchased from school for £2, or from local supermarkets or sports shops.

Students will be reminded about the dress code in their PE lesson, and will be given alternative tasks to complete in these activities if they are without this protective equipment.

Please do not hesitate to contact me or your child's PE teacher if you have any questions regarding this change.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Hemm
Coordinator of PE

Compulsory Uniform List

The following clothing must be worn by students and internally labelled with their name:

- Blazer: Academy blazer, single breasted with green trim and integral Academy badge
- Shirt: formal collared shirt/blouse – white, buttoned to neck with tie.
- Tie: Academy tie, neatly knotted to cover the top button and reaching the waist band, with top shirt button fastened.
- Trousers/skirt: **either** black school trousers (boys/girls) **or** black school skirts (girls).
Note: Skirts should be standard school skirts (from a uniform suppliers), not short lycra / tube skirts.
- Socks / tights: **either** black socks (boys/girls) **or** tights in plain neutral or plain black (girls).
- Shoes: plain black shoes with maximum heel height of 5cm and sole thickness of 2cm.

The following clothing is **not** permitted:

- Boots, boot-style shoes, suede shoes, stiletto heels, sling back shoes and trainers.
- Hooded tops
- Sports caps or other patterned or designer hats
- Patterned tights.

Optional Clothing

Where students choose to wear the following items, they must conform to the requirement shown:

- Outer coat: sensible, with no overt external stripes, text or logos
- Pullover: plain black V-neck, long or sleeveless
- Cycling shorts: plain black (to be worn under sports skirt or shorts)

Sports Clothing (Outdoors)

For outdoor sports, students must wear clothing from among the following:

- Academy Rugby shirt
- Academy Sports socks
- Academy Polo shirt
- Academy Tracksuit
- Black shorts/skirt
- Studded boots (boys)
- Outdoor trainers (girls)
- Indoor trainers (boys and girls)
- Gum shield (boys and girls)

Hair

No extremes of hairstyle are permitted except on religious or cultural grounds.

This refers to both style and colour. We would ask that pupils do not come to school with hair dyed to colours which do not occur naturally as hair.

Jewellery

Plain silver or gold studs may be worn as a single matching pair only, with one stud in each ear lobe. One plain gold or silver finger ring may be worn. Chains and any other visible body piercings are not permitted.

Make-Up

Any make-up worn must be discreet.

Please note:

All pupils **MUST** attend the Academy at all times in full school uniform. This includes clothing, footwear, hair, makeup, jewellery, etc. Any pupil who is not suitably attired will either be sent home to change, or they will be sent to Student Services to borrow appropriate items from our stock.