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23 May 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Many thanks to those of you who responded to the summer uniform consultation. The feedback we had from students, parents and carers, and staff and governors contributed to the decision to adopt the following proposals for a summer uniform for next term (5 June – 21 July):

Summer Proposal A: Skirts will no longer be required to worn with black tights. Students can choose to wear either black or white ankle socks.

We had lots of feedback from parents who are concerned about the current length of students' skirts. We urge you to support the requirement of 'a knee length plain black skirt'. Without your support, it is incredibly difficult to ensure that skirts are of an appropriate length. Should you require any support in meeting this expectation, please contact the school directly.

During our consultation period, pleated skirts were discussed in assemblies and modelled by volunteer students. The feedback was positive, as students felt that this style combined with the fact that they are widely available in different fits (regular, longer length, slim fit and plus size) would be a welcome addition to the school uniform policy. We will be consulting in Term 6 as to whether all skirts should be pleated from September 2023. Please bear this in mind if you are planning to buy a new skirt before September.

Summer Proposal B: Tailored shorts may be worn.

Tailored shorts are made out of the same material as school trousers. They should be knee length. Black school shoes will be required to be worn with them. Students may not wear trainers.

The opportunity for students to wear tailored shorts was extremely popular amongst students in KS3. Local retailers stock black shorts (however you may have to order online) up to the age of 14. Specialist uniform suppliers do stock age 14+ black shorts but they have to be ordered online. Socks should either be black or white please.

Summer Proposal C: When temperatures are extremely high, Parkside will decide whether to make further adjustments to the uniform.

Adjustments will include the removal of the school blazer and tie. This decision will be communicated via text message to all families before 8am on the day or in advance where possible. When a tie is no longer required to be worn, students will be allowed to have the top button only of their shirt undone.

All stakeholders thought that proposal C was a good idea.

I have included below some images of our volunteer students modelling the above proposals. I am sure you would agree, that they look very smart and promote a positive image of our school.

Thank you for your continued support,

Mrs Asher

Deputy Headteacher

