

Notes from Parents' Forum – Thursday 1st December 2022

Notes taken from the meeting and through email responses sent to parents@penryn-college.cornwall.sch.uk

Aim of the meeting: In response to the government statutory guidance (Cost of school uniforms) published on 19 November 2021 we aim to seek parental consultation on the affordability of the existing Penryn College uniform. We explored three main questions;

1. What works well about our existing uniform provision?
2. Does the existing uniform provide value for money and how can we support families?
3. How can we best provide information about uniform and financial support with uniform?

Penryn College Uniform – current info on the school website including prices

GIRLS	BOYS
Plain black school skirt of a suitable length Trousers (not tight trousers or leggings) Plain white polo shirt with College logo £9.00 Plain black sweatshirt with College logo £11.50 Black <u>shoes</u> (no trainers or skate shoes)	Plain black school trousers (not jeans or chinos) Plain white polo shirt with College logo £9.00 Plain black sweatshirt with College logo £11.50 Black <u>shoes</u> (no trainers or skate shoes) Shorts may be worn all year but must be black knee length of a formal/tailored type cut. £15.00 Castle Sports
OUR SPORTSWEAR Macron Polis Shirt – Red shirt with black trim and embroidered badge £16.00 or £18.50 Macron Mesa or Acrux Shorts – Black shorts with embroidered badge £10.00 or £12.50 Macron Havel 1/4 Zip – Red top with embroidered badge £17.75 or £20.50 Macron Hoops Socks – Red and black socks £4.80 or £5.75 Macron Essential Leggings – Black leggings with printed badge £13.00 or £16.00 Core Pack Junior £48.55 or £51.55. Core Pack Senior £57.25 or £60.75 Optional Kit Items (Clothing) Macron Performance Sport Havel 1/4 Zip Top (Year 11 Only) – Red 1/4 zip top with embroidered badge and 'Performance Sport' printed on the back Macron Elbrus Rain Jacket – Red rain jacket with embroidered badge. Macron Abydos Hero Pant – Black tracksuit bottoms with pockets on the side, zipped cuffs and embroidered badge. PE KIT FROM PREVIOUS SUPPLIER (AGAME)	

Please note that this kit can still be worn by students – there is no time limit on this.

What works well about our existing uniform provision?

- Warm
- Comfortable
- House logos give a sense of identify
- School uniform is good quality
- Washes well
- Casually Smart
- Students feel good about themselves wearing it
- Students like it
- Not too formal or 'business' like
- Like new PE kit
- Deliveries arrive quite quickly
- Easily available
- Price
- 'Uniform shop' on Year 6 transition evening useful
- Flexible for example include shorts all year round

Does the existing uniform provide value for money and how can we support families?

Actions in red

- Cost of new PE uniform seems more expensive. A full set of Macron sizes are available from the PE office to ensure purchasing is accurate.
- Could we allow plain white polo T-shirts? From January 2023 students can wear White polo T-Shirts without a logo under a school jumper. This can be reviewed again for the summer term as temperatures get warmer
- Could we allow plain black PE shorts?
- Could changing the colour of the polo T-Shirt increase the affordability; for example, everyone wearing grey or red.
- Does the T-shirt need a logo at all? As above
- Clarity of shoes – black school shoes and PE shoes required As part of updating our website we will develop our information on uniform and include more photos and examples of footwear
- Can there be some flexibility in school footwear if its black?
- Include base-layers and thermals during winter months Yes if under a school jumper
- How can Year 11 leavers share any second-hand uniform
- Timetable for PE footwear needed in lessons so that parents aren't having a purchase shoe for September that aren't needed till February. We will explore this further we the PE team

How can we best provide information about uniform and financial support with uniform?

Actions in red

- Reduce the vagueness in the uniform policy and provide more detail to specific areas of the school uniform; shoes, trousers, skirts **As above we will improve the communication around uniform as we update the school website**
 - Greater detail ensures buy the correct uniform in the first place
 - Greater detail supports parents' conversations at home if students think there is some ambiguity allowed
- Improve how we signpost support for school uniform using the website, social media and newsletter **As above**
 - Lost property kept in school
 - Lost property sent to local charity shops
 - Second-hand uniform sale
 - Availability of studs in PE
 - Full set of Macron sizes kept in PE 'try before you buy'
 - Free delivery to school address for purchases
- Include more visual examples of uniform, especially footwear on the school website so no incorrect uniform is purchased **As above**
- Include links to examples of footwear on the school website **As above**
- Provide enough time for parents to purchase uniform especially early notification of any changes to uniform policy, again including an examples (photographs)
- Could the 'uniform shop' on Year 6 transition evening be extended for other year groups to access? **To be explored as an option for Summer 2023**
- Transition between year groups. Include uniform information not just for Year 6 to Year 7 transition but also annually once joined the school.
- Work directly with parents applicable to Pupil Premium funding and hardship funding

WHERE TO BUY UNIFORM

Uniform is available all year round at Castle Sports & Uniform in Falmouth, and can be ordered online, over the telephone, or in person in the shop. Please click here to access the Castle Sports & Uniform website.

If you wish to purchase PE kit and additional sports equipment, please click here to visit the **Macron South West** website. It is important to note that, despite our recent change of PE kit supplier, **students can continue to wear Penryn College AGAME kit** – there is no time limit on this.

ADDITIONAL RULES

School trousers should be formal, not a jean type, chino cut, or leggings. As a guide, there should be some space between the leg and the material from the knee down and this part of the garment should be able to hold a crease. **They should be full length and rest on the shoe. They should not be turned up.**

School skirts should be of a suitable length and be appropriate for the workplace (i.e. closer to the knee than the bottom).

Black belts may be worn for the purpose of keeping trousers up and should fit and be worn through the trouser belt loop.

Shorts may be worn all year but must be black knee length of a formal/tailored type cut.

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THINGS GO WRONG?

There may be times when your child may have to wear something that is not school uniform. Please send a note to your child's tutor explaining why this is the case and when your son/daughter will be wearing the correct uniform, which should be the next day, unless there are exceptional circumstances. A uniform slip will then be issued.

If your child's skirt is too short, trousers are too tight, or shoes are not correct, and you have not told us there are very good reasons for this, we have clean, spare uniform which we will issue; refusal to wear this uniform will result in disciplinary action being taken. Students wearing the wrong shoes will be issued with plimsolls, as is the case in many other schools. In order to be hygienic, at the end of each day, the plimsolls will need to be sprayed so germs are not spread.