

Dear Parents and Carers

Changes to the College Uniform

As you will be aware we became an academy on 1st November 2016 and we have received very positive feedback regarding the changes that have taken place and their impact.

The name of the College has remained St Mary's Catholic College but we also include the additional statement A Voluntary Aided Academy to reflect the change in status and, as in the case for all schools converting to academy status, the fact that the previous school closed, on 31st October 2016.

Over my time here as Headteacher I have had a number of enquiries from students and parents as to whether the Governors had considered changing the uniform. In fact some parents have shared that the uniform has not changed since they were students here and on further investigation we have identified that the main parts of the uniform have not changed since the College opened approximately 45 years ago.

Given the significant change in becoming an academy it would seem a logical time to consider updating the uniform to reflect the new school and to address some of the issues that have been identified with the current uniform. We are aware that it is you as parents and carers who bear the expense of purchasing school uniform. Affordability as well as appearance and fitness for purpose will be a key element of any changes made to the uniform. We have discussed this with the Governors who have agreed that we should change the current uniform.

We have commissioned some samples from uniform suppliers and in the coming weeks we will be asking students for feedback on these, starting with the elected Student Council. A display will be set up in College. I was concerned that you were aware of this rather than hearing about it via your son/daughter.

I do hope you agree this updating our uniform is an exciting opportunity for us. We will inform you as soon as any final decision is made over the details of the new uniform.

Yours faithfully

Mr A Boyle
Headteacher