



THE CONSORTIUM
ACADEMY TRUST

Shaping Positive Futures

Executive Report: Transition to Trust-Wide Uniform Standards Statement

Date: May 2025

To: Governing Body Members and Trust Board Members (Secondary)

Introduction

This report outlines the transition from individual school uniform policies to a Trust-wide uniform standards statement, starting from the next academic year. This strategic move is intended to benefit our learners, families, and the broader school community by promoting cost efficiency, consistency, and adherence to government guidelines.

Importance of School Uniform

A unified school uniform policy is pivotal in fostering a sense of belonging and pride among learners. It ensures equality by eliminating distractions related to clothing choices, enabling learners to focus on their learning. Uniforms also contribute to a positive school identity and present a professional image to the wider community.

Rationale for the Change

1. Cost Efficiency:

Standardising the uniform across our Trust aims to reduce costs for parents in the long term. This change will make uniform items more affordable and accessible for all families. A thorough and competitive tender process was conducted, resulting in Clothing For Little People being selected as the successful bidder for Howden School and Steady Schoolwear being selected as the successful bidder for all other schools.

2. Consistency and Standards:

Implementing uniform standards across all schools ensures consistency and fairness. This statement aligns our organisation with government guidelines, which recommend having no more than three logo items in a uniform (excluding ties). This change provides parents with the flexibility to choose where to purchase certain items, leading to potential cost savings.

Maintaining Individual School Culture

While we are implementing a Trust-wide uniform standards statement, we deeply value the unique culture and individuality of each school. The essence of what makes each school special will remain intact. Our commitment to celebrating the individual identities and traditions of each school will continue to be a priority. We believe that a unified uniform policy will enhance our collective strength while still allowing each school to maintain its distinctive character.

Transition Details

From September, learners will be allowed to continue wearing old-style blazers, jumpers, and PE kits if they are appropriate. All items of clothing for the lower half of the body,

including shoes, socks, skirts, and trousers, must adhere to the new policy from September.

Conclusion

We appreciate your support and cooperation as we make this transition. This strategic move is designed to foster an inclusive and supportive educational environment for our learners, while promoting cost efficiency and consistency across our Trust. A full guide the school uniform can be found as attachments to this letter.

For any questions or further details, please feel free to reach out. We are committed to ensuring a smooth and successful implementation of this new policy.