



Rotherhithe Primary
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RE: Change of School Uniform 6th May 2022

Dear Parent and Carers,

As we are approaching moving into our brand new building, I wanted to share some other exciting news regarding our current school uniform.

The idea of exploring a new colour for our school uniform was led by our very own school council. Isaac, the chairperson of the school council, led the discussions with the rest of the representatives and they decided to ask all pupils to vote on whether to change the colour of our uniform to suit our brand new building. Isaac also recorded a video for staff explaining what the school council was exploring and also asked all staff to vote.

The votes have been counted, all school staff and pupils have had their say and the results are in. With the approval of our Governing Body and with an overwhelming majority vote, RPS will change its uniform colour from Blue to Burgundy. How exciting!!!!

Some of the key priorities for the children, the staff and the governors were for the uniform to be affordable, easy for parents to purchase and to complement the ethos of the school but also blend in with our new building. We are in a very strong position to compete with all the schools in Southwark, and in so doing we need to promote and market a higher profile image of the school. We believe that a new colour uniform will make us stand out in a positive way.

The key reasons for the change are:

- To be comparable in our dress code to other Southwark schools.
- To raise the profile of our school within the community.
- To ensure our dress code is fit for purpose and appropriate

The key priorities for the new uniform are that:

- It fits with the school vision.
- It is clear and consistent in design.
- It is smart and practical.
- It is affordable for parents.

There are only these small changes to our uniform:

- As part of the new school uniform, children in **Nursery and Reception** will be allowed to wear grey school jogging bottoms and black trainers with our new burgundy sweatshirt. This is because a large proportion of the Early Years learning takes place outside.
- Replacing the original blue sweatshirt with a burgundy sweatshirt with logo.
- Replacing the original blue fleeces with burgundy fleeces with our logo.
- **In winter children in Year 1 to Year 6** will be expected to wear grey trousers, grey skirt or grey pinafore and black school shoes with white polo – t-shirts or white shirts (**no change from previous uniform requirements**).

In **summer**: girls may opt for our **burgundy** summer dresses which can be purchased at Asda Old Kent Road. Please make sure you do not purchase the red one.

- Burgundy Book bags for children in Nursery – Year 3.
- Year 4 – 6 pupils will have an option to purchase a black back pack from school but this is not compulsory.
- We are also introducing a school cap with our school logo although this is not compulsory.
- PE kits will be plain white t-shirts (instead of a t-shirt with a logo) and black shorts or joggers which the school will also stock

The new school sweatshirts, fleeces, black PE joggers and black PE shorts, book bags, black back packs and caps can be ordered and paid through parent pay and collected from the school office once your payment has been approved.

White shirts, white polo t-shirts, grey trousers, grey pinafores and grey skirts can be purchased from any stockist or local shops like Tesco, Asda and Sainsbury's etc. The summer burgundy dresses can be purchased at Asda (Old Kent Road).

We acknowledge that the switchover will take some time, therefore the introduction of the new uniform will only be compulsory **from September 2022**. Until then:

- Children will continue to wear the blue sweatshirts and fleeces until July 2022.
- We are discouraging parents from purchasing the current blue school uniform in advance to the new school year.

Further information about this and photos of our new uniform will be posted on the website very soon.

As the school uniform is an important aspect of who we are as a school community, we need your support in ensuring that your child / children come to school dressed in full school uniform. Please ensure that your child is dressed appropriately and help us to market our school.

Here is a reminder:

Shirts: Plain, white, cotton long/short sleeved shirt with collar or Polo T-shirts

Sweatshirts

and Fleece: Burgundy with the school logo

Fleece Burgundy with the school logo (available to purchase through parent pay and collected at school office)

Caps: Burgundy caps with the school logo is available to purchase

Trousers: Grey trousers

Tracksuit bottoms will only be allowed for pupils in Nursery and Reception due to their increased outdoor learning.

Skirt: Grey, plain approximately knee length.

Dresses: For summer girls may choose to wear burgundy summer dresses. These can be purchased from Asda (Old Kent Road)

Headscarf: Plain black (if worn).

Shoes: Must be completely black, flat shoes or completely black trainers with black laces or black velcro. No large brand logos or mixed colours.

Please note: no boots with heels, sling backs or sandals are allowed due to Health and Safety in the playground. It is not appropriate to purchase multi - colour shoes or trainers for school.

Socks: Plain grey or plain white ankle or knee length.

Tights: Grey only

School Bag: From September all children in Nursery – Year 3 will need a school infant school book bag. This is to ensure that the school reading journals and homework is kept neat and presentable. Parents are advised to check children's bags daily.

Children in Years 4, 5 and 6 can purchase a junior school back pack with mesh water bottle pocket via parent pay, OR they can have their own back packs if preferred. **No handbags** will be allowed. *(All bags are available to purchase through parent pay and collected at school).*



PE Kit

For health and safety reasons we require ALL children wear appropriate clothing for PE. We recommend dark jogging bottoms (black) or black shorts in summer and white PE T-shirts. These can be purchased local stores or via parent pay.



If your child cannot participate in the lesson due to illness or injury, then a letter from home is required to be given to the class teacher on the day. Your child should still bring his / her kit and change, as there are many other roles s/he can adopt, such as coach, umpire or score keeper.

Swimming KS2

Caps can be purchased directly from parent pay and collected from the school office OR at any other stockists. There will be no charge to our swimming caps.

It is important that all items of clothing are clearly marked with your child's name, including coats and P.E. kits. This can be done with sew in tapes or with an indelible pen (waterproof).

All teachers and senior leaders will be following up on the correct uniform for the rest of the term and continue to do so for September. We are giving parents 4 months' notice to purchase the correct uniform, shoes and PE kit. Please work with us to make this a priority for September 2022.

Hair: Shoulder length or longer hair **must be tied up** with black tidies

Nails: Should be kept clean and short enough to enable pupils to participate safely in practical activities.

No coloured nail varnish is allowed at any time.

Jewellery: Wrist watches may be worn if a child is able to tell the time. If desired one small sleeper or stud earring in each ear will be allowed. Smartwatches should not be worn to school. Should children arrive to school with a smartwatch, we will ask children to remove this and it will be returned to parents at the end of the day. This is to ensure that we remain GDPR compliant and to safeguard all our pupils.

COMPULSORY School Uniform

We expect all children to wear school uniform at all times. When a child is unable to wear the correct uniform, a parent/carer is required to send a note to the class teacher (with the child on that day) explaining the reason and the period for which this will occur.

To assist parents we will provide each child who is already registered to our school, with one new burgundy jumper with our school logo free of charge. The uniforms will be available to purchase directly from parent pay and will also be cheaper than our current uniform. Prices and further pictures will be sent to parents soon.

The new uniforms will be implemented from September 2022.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for supporting the school in implementing our new school uniform and showing off our school and uniform to the entire community. We have so much to be proud of!!

Yours sincerely,

Galiema Amien – Cloete