



Monday 2 March 2020

Dear Parents / Carers

New PE kit for students at The King's Academy

We are excited to announce that following a recent successful trial, a stylish new PE kit is being introduced at The King's Academy from September 2020. We believe this is the first significant change to the kit since we opened in 2003 and the fantastic, modern new kit will bring a number of welcome benefits to students and parents:

- *Simpler*: there is one unified kit encompassing both indoor and outdoor sports, with optional layers to provide additional warmth as required, reducing the need for both indoor and outdoor kits to be brought to school or expensive items which are rarely worn
- *Cheaper*: the cost of the new essential kit is significantly lower than that of the compulsory items in the old kit – saving £12 for the boys' kit and £14 for the girls' kit
- *More purchasing choice*: our not for profit uniform shop will stock all items at competitive prices but as all of the optional items (bar the mid-layer) are standard navy items, parents are free to check out high street or online alternatives in order to save further
- *High performance*: up to date design and construction will help students feel more comfortable and stylish when participating in sports
- *Easy-care*: items still look good after being scrunched up in a kit bag for a few days and the modern fabrics used in their construction are easier to clean
- *Longer lasting*: in regular use, we expect that the new kit will last longer than the old, up to two school years rather than sometimes having to be replaced in year

The new kit will be available to purchase from our in-house uniform shop from June 2020 onwards but, to ensure parents who have recently purchased items from the old kit do not feel short-changed, items from the old kit can be used right the way through until summer 2021. (New Year 7 students in September 2020 must be equipped with the new kit.) There are plenty of old kit items currently available at reduced prices in the uniform shop so parents of existing students are able to save and spread the cost of changing to the new kit across the next eighteen months.

Please see the attached style guide for further details of the new kit, including prices, and also for information about the old kit items which are available now, whilst stocks last, at substantially reduced prices (and can be used by existing students until summer 2021).

We trust that you and your son/ daughter will welcome these changes which will bring our PE kit up to date. If you have any queries about the change, please contact our uniform shop staff who will be happy to assist. The uniform shop is open 3:45-5:45pm every Thursday during term time and is accessible via the Sports Reception entrance.

Yours sincerely

Mr C Lynch
Head of Physical Education

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