

“Leaders, staff and governors share a passionate commitment to raise the aspirations and achievements of all the students who attend the school.”

Ofsted

Thursday 15th December 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you and your families are well and in good health.

Firstly, I wanted to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support on behalf of all the staff here at President Kennedy School. It has been a while since we have returned to school without discussing face coverings, split lunch times, and risk assessments and we are all gradually returning back to normal.

It has been an incredibly busy term. I am always amazed when I write the summary at the start of the weekly newsletter, at how much students and staff manage to do in just one week. Throughout the year, students and staff have been working closely together on a range of community projects, whether it's with Coventry Food Bank, making food parcels for the homeless with Langar Aid or with the Samaritans as well as raising money for Children in Need and Zoe's Place, amongst others. Service is such an important aspect to developing character in our young students. Enrichment activities have been extensive, from the sports field to Performing Arts, as well as STEM projects and Duke of Edinburgh Awards; there has been something for everyone. The Pan African Festival has certainly been a highlight of the year and this celebration of the wealth of culture at our school was continued with the Cultural Dress Day on Thursday. Please do look on our website (Twitter and Facebook) for the range of enrichment activities as well our weekly newsletters, which showcases the wonderful, talented and thoughtful students we have here at school. They show immense PRIDE.

It has been wonderful to have parents attending events too. We have missed seeing you and speaking to you face to face, building upon the all-important relationships, which matter so much in being able to support our students. Many of the events that parents have been invited to this year have been about meeting the college teams, understanding the purpose of each specific college and the expectations and journey for each year group. There have also been many celebration events, for example celebration assemblies, the wonderful Pan African Festival, the Spotlight Performing Arts Show as well as numerous workshops designed to help support your children at home. Thank you for your support!

High Expectations

As you are aware we take great pride in our high standards here at President Kennedy School, which is so important in preparing young people for the wider world and the workplace. We ask for your support in speaking to your child about the importance of being on time to school and lessons, as this will not only maximise learning time in class but also safeguard all students at all times, so we know each child is accounted for in school. I have also attached the school uniform flyer which outlines the school policy on items of jewellery, make up, piercings and items of clothing allowed and not allowed, including lengths of skirts, something which I will be following up with students in the new year, following the Christmas break. Please can I ask for your support so that students return to school on the 3rd January in correct uniform – thank you.

Attendance

We have also conducted a recent analysis of the link between attendance and exam grades. Students at President Kennedy School who achieved 95% attendance made twice as much progress as those students who had attendance of below 95%. We know that if students attend school, our teachers make an exceptional impact on their grades and life chances. I recognise that there have been a few weeks of increased absence due to community illnesses so January allows us all to rest and reset the attendance button and renew our target of 95%+.

Support for Families

We recognise that times are challenging for families and finances. We now have a free breakfast club open before school 5 days a week; students can also access free sanitary products from the college areas as well as student reception. We provide 'as good as new' school uniform and brand-new uniform, including shoes. We can also subsidise any school trip and we can also provide access to free laptops for students to use at home. College homework clubs also allow students to use computers at school and use free printing for any homework. If you require any support please do contact us at school via the college email addresses. All communication will be kept confidential:

Year Group	Specific Email Address
7	Year7info@pks.coventry.sch.uk
8	Year8info@pks.coventry.sch.uk
9	Year9info@pks.coventry.sch.uk
10	Year10info@pks.coventry.sch.uk
11	Year11info@pks.coventry.sch.uk
Post 16	Post16@pks.coventry.sch.uk

Please look out for President Kennedy School on the BBC The One Show on 27th January, which documents the school's special relationship with Peter Lantos, a Holocaust Survivor: we have been blessed to have been gifted his personal testimony. It is a truly moving account of his life story.

Finally, I would personally like to thank you all for your unwavering support this term and please stay safe and healthy.

My best wishes for a Happy New Year.

Kindest regards.



Ms S Rooke
Acting Headteacher

School Uniform

Uniform Regulations Year 7 to Year 11

Main Uniform, Essential Items and Equipment

Navy blazer with school logo	White shirt or blouse
Girls - Navy trousers (cotton/polyester/viscose straight cut or boot cut, not skin tight or skinny) or Navy <u>knee-length</u> , straight or pleated skirt to be worn	Boys - Mid Grey trousers (cotton/polyester/viscose straight cut, not skin tight or skinny)
Navy, Grey or Black socks/tights or Girls - Plain Navy knee length socks or tights	Plain Black shoes (not boots)
School tie	Coats must be plain Black, Grey or Navy
School bags of a suitable size (must be able to carry exercise books and equipment)	School Planner* Calculator, compass, crayons, pocket English Dictionary, erasers, pencils, pens, protractor, ruler, reading book <i>(*school planners are provided to students at the start of the school year)</i>



Optional Items

Navy cotton cardigan (girls) with school logo	Navy cotton jumper (boys and girls) with school logo
Hijab - Plain Navy or Black	Turban - Plain Navy or Black
Technology - full apron, Art - protective clothing (e.g. an old shirt)	

WE EXPECT OUR STUDENTS TO WEAR THEIR UNIFORM WITH PRIDE

PE/Games Kit

Essential Items

Navy and gold rugby top with or without school logo (boys)
Navy Shorts
Navy polo shirt with or without school logo
Navy sports socks (must be worn for PE)
Training shoes (not pumps)
Football/Rugby moulded boots (boys all years; girls for years 7, 8 & 9). <u>Please note moulded boots are essential to enable students to play on the school's 4G pitch.</u>
Hair tie or bobble



Optional Items

Plain navy tracksuit bottoms with or without school logo
Navy tracksuit top with school logo (girls)
Plain navy leggings with or without school logo (girls)
Navy and gold skort with school logo or plain navy skort without logo (girls)
Gum shield for rugby
Shin pads for football

Sports branded items are not permitted.

Strictly no jewellery to be worn for PE/games.

WE DO NOT ALLOW

- Leather or denim jackets, jeans, leggings or jeggings, skin tight, skinny or cropped trousers
- Trainers or pumps, boots, canvas shoes, high heeled shoes, open toe shoes
- More than one item of jewellery, including multiple piercings (earrings must be small studs only, barbell earrings are not permitted)
- Facial piercings, tongue piercings
- Brightly coloured scarves, headbands, socks or belts
- T-shirts visible under shirts
- Extreme hair styles or brightly coloured hair
- Excessive or brightly coloured make up, including coloured nail varnish, acrylics or artificial nails, false eyelashes or eyelash extensions
- Skirts that are above the knee
- Hoodies, sporting or tracksuit tops and baseball caps

All uniform items are available from:



Cat Ballou Originals Ltd
 1-3 The Burges, Coventry, CV1 1HN
 Tel: 02476 555499
www.catballou.co.uk



Andy Blair Sports & Schoolwear
 88-90 Barkers Butts Lane, Coventry CV6 1DY
 Tel: 02476 598080
<http://www.andyblairschoolwear.co.uk/>