

“President Kennedy School is committed to ‘building brighter futures’ for all. They embody this ambition wholeheartedly. Pupils are proud and happy to be a part of this inclusive and diverse school where they excel both academically and personally. The caring nature and positive relationships between pupils of all ages, and staff, is what makes this school such a special place to be.”

Ofsted

Dear Parents and Carers

Tuesday 12th March 2024

I hope you and your families are well and in good health. I do so hope you are able to read the weekly newsletter which is emailed out every Friday and available on our website. It highlights the wonderful achievements of our incredible students and the outstanding range of opportunities our staff provide for our students every week. It is truly remarkable and we are very proud of the young people in our care.

The summer term is obviously a crucial time for many of our exam groups, specifically Year 11 and Year 13, as many of these students will be sitting their first external examinations as early as May. It is important that as a school community we show our support for these students and we will be speaking to the whole school in tutor time and assemblies about how we can all show our support to these students. I am sure we are all united in wishing these students all the best in their preparation, revision, and forthcoming exams.

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 in the wider world and preparing them for the workplace. This was recently commented upon in our recent outstanding Ofsted report:

“Leaders work relentlessly to ensure that pupils receive a high-quality education with an exceptional enrichment programme.

Leaders have pupils’ best interests at the heart of all they do. As a result, pupils blossom into happy and confident young people who are extremely well prepared for their next steps.”

As we approach the Easter holidays we are speaking to the students about these high expectations and the PRIDE they show in everything they do at school, every day. During the next two weeks in school, we will be discussing the following expectations and in preparation for the start of the new term, we ask for your support in speaking to your child about the importance of the following:

Registration and arrival to school

Please can I remind parents/carers and students that:

1. Students are expected to be **in school at 8.40am** – which is when the first bell sounds.
2. Students are expected to be in registration with their tutor at **8.45am** promptly– which is when the second bell sounds for the start of registration.
3. We do understand that some students may have some issues arriving to school on time, so please let us know if we can help. However, students who do arrive after registration start time of **8.45am**, with no parental contact or explanation will unfortunately receive a 30 minutes detention that same day, after school with their college.

Attendance

Further to my previous letters, we know there is a crucial link between attendance and exam grades and confidence of our students. 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 here at President Kennedy School make an exceptional impact on



a student's self-esteem, exam grades and life chances. The summer term allows us all to reset the attendance button and renew our target of 95%+ for our final term. The summer term will be an important term in preparing students for the next stage of their school journey and allows students to feel confident in their transition to their new college team. Things you can do to help:

1. Encourage your child to attend school even if they aren't feeling 100% - this will help build resilience.
2. Write them a note in their planner to explain that they are feeling unwell and may not feel 100% in their lessons.

Uniform

Students displaying PRIDE in the way in which they wear their school uniform is an important aspect of school life at President Kennedy School. I would like to take this opportunity to thank parents for their continued support in ensuring high standards of uniform. Over the next two weeks, we will be discussing the standard of uniform required with students, and ensuring that students are supported in wearing the school uniform correctly for when they return after the Easter break.

Please be aware that there will be a focus on the **appropriate and decent length** of school skirts. Any student who I deem as wearing a school skirt that is too short will be spoken to and will be expected to change this for when we return on **Monday 8th April**. In order to support this, the following could happen:

1. The school will provide a change of skirt (knee length) or trousers for a student to borrow.
2. The school will be willing to replace/buy change of skirt (knee length).

I have also attached the school uniform flyer which outlines the school policy on items of jewellery, make up, nails, piercings and items of clothing allowed and not allowed, including lengths of skirts. Please be aware that **hoodies are not part of the school uniform** and should not be brought to school. We will obviously contact parents/carers if there are potential issues with uniform so we can see how this can be rectified and how we may support.

Mobile Phones/Ear Pods

As you are aware, President Kennedy School has been a mobile phone free school for over ten years. We believe that this supports the outstanding learning environment, that Ofsted commented upon so positively and also improve the mental health of our students. Students must put their phones away at the school gates and remove headphones, otherwise they could be confiscated by a member of staff.

Lost Property

We also have an extensive 'lost property' section at school, which contains items such as coats and PE kit. If your child has lost an item then please do contact the college with a description to see if we can find the lost item.

School Support

We also recognise that times are challenging for families and finances. If you need support with school uniform then do please contact us, as we do have items of uniform that can be provided, including shoes, blazers, ties and shirts. 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 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 contact us at school via the college email addresses. All communication will be kept confidential.

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

Yours sincerely



S Rooke
Headteacher

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

Uniform Regulations Year 7 to Year 11

PE/Games Kit

Essential Items

Navy and gold rugby top with or without school logo (essential for playing Rugby in PE lessons)
Navy tracksuit top with school logo (essential for outdoor PE, if student does not have rugby top)
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 (essential for health & safety purposes)

Optional Items

Plain navy tracksuit bottoms with or without school logo
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

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 |
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All uniform items are available from:



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



Clive Mark Schoolwear
 88-90 Barkers Butts Lane, Coventry CV6 1DY
 Tel: 02476 598080 <https://coventryschoolwear.com/>