



16<sup>th</sup> October 2020

**Re: Introduction of uniform into Avanti Gardens School**

Dear families,

I am aware that the plans for the partial introduction of uniform from January 2021 have resulted in a number of perfectly legitimate and reasonable questions and queries. It is also true to state that I have been contacted by a good number of parents who are wholly supportive of the plans for the uniform. In addition, from the conversations I have informally had around the school, many pupils are also supportive of the plans for a uniform.

I have been in discussions with both our Hub Director and our Education Director to discuss parental concerns and as a result, we have agreed to amend the plans as follows:

**Introduction of uniform for Year 6 pupils from January 2021** – this proposal will now be withdrawn. Year 6 pupils at Avanti Gardens School will NOT be required to wear uniform for their remaining two terms, however they won't be discouraged if they choose to wear the uniform.

**Phased introduction of the main uniform (jumper, polo etc) starting from January 2021** - we will extend the phasing-in period and would now expect all pupils affected to be in the new uniform by **the start of March 2021**. Pupils are encouraged to be in correct uniform as early as possible, however due to many external factors, we have provided this additional time for families to source the correct uniform. We will also delay the introduction of a formal PE kit until September 2021. As per the original proposal, Avanti Schools Trust will pay for each pupil to have a school jumper.

I am also aware that some parents have queried the lack of a formal consultation that they believe they were promised would take place. When we published the

curriculum review in May 2020 we made clear that there would be no change to any uniform requirements from September 2020 but that we did intend to launch a formal consultation on the possible introduction of a uniform from September 2021. Given that all of our other schools have a uniform the consultation was always going to be about uniform requirements, not about whether to have a uniform or not. This consultation has now started with the caveat that we wish to introduce some aspects of the uniform earlier than September 2021 to support our overall school improvement plans.

Many parents have already completed the order form for a jumper – see link below – and I would encourage those that have not yet done so to complete the form as soon as possible.

<https://forms.gle/uQpcWqQeooUzoa729>

As always, I am grateful to you for your continued support and for the manner in which you have raised your queries or questions about the uniform plans with me. As you know, I am committed to doing what I can to further improve and build on the many strengths of the school and to work with you in a spirit of partnership and collaboration.

Best wishes,

Mr Milum  
Principal