



28 April 2023

Dear families

Community System Consultation

We have been really grateful for the feedback received relating to our presentation and information sent out regarding our proposal to move from a solely year based system, to a new 'community' system. Stakeholders including parents and carers, students, staff and governors have seen the many benefits that such a change can bring and that we believe will enhance our existing pastoral system and give greater opportunities to our students. I am therefore pleased to say that we will be **moving forward into the next planning phase to introduce this system from September 2023.**

An exciting part of this next phase will be to consider the names for each community. I am really looking forward to hearing students' thoughts and suggestions on this, as well as their views on how we structure **student leadership** and **student voice** opportunities.

We will keep you updated with this work via the Families Bulletin throughout the term.

Uniform Changes

I have fully appreciated the feedback received on our proposals for changes to the uniform. We have taken them all into consideration including the cost of living, costs to the school, waste, gender equality and whether or not all students should wear ties. Each was discussed in great depth and has helped us to move forward. We believe that what we have decided on very much reflects that we have **listened to your feedback**, as well as giving us the **community identity** we believe is important.

Therefore, from September 2023 the **school jumper will be replaced by a new navy jumper with community colour stripe on the v-neck.** We will not expect every family to purchase a new jumper immediately, for students in years 8-11, although we would encourage it. As old jumpers come to the end of their life, any new purchase will be the new design. The uniform for **new Year 7 students will be the new jumper, with either the blouse uniform or the current Sackville tie and shirt uniform.**

We will not be making any changes to the design of the Sackville school ties or expect all students to wear one with a shirt. The **blouse option will remain in place.** We appreciate that this will still leave us with a perceived 'boys' and 'girls' uniform and the issue of equality is still one which we would like to address. This will make for a healthy student voice discussion at some point in the future. For now, one simple change to the jumper will be adequate for us to establish our new community system.

The order will now be placed for the jumpers and we will let you know as soon as these are in stock. Please note due to the time of year and the delays that are being experienced with overseas products, some uniform items may not be available until July/August. We will communicate our uniform shop's August opening hours closer to the time so that you have plenty of time to prepare for September.

We are very much looking forward to developing our communities plans and will keep you updated.

Kind regards

Jo Meloni
Headteacher