



CONSETT
ACADEMY

Our Ref KER/CMC

19 March 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

COVID-19 Update

Thank you for helping us to make the return to school for students and staff work so well over the past fortnight whilst completing our testing programme. Although we would have wished for zero positive results, we have only had three positive test results out of well over 3000. However, I appreciate that this has still necessitated in having to send a number of 'close contact' students home to self-isolate. As a parent myself I know this will be frustrating and inconvenient both for you as parents or carers and for the young person themselves but we are required to follow government guidelines. Taking a LFT doesn't mean that all students remain in school regardless of the results. Taking the tests, both in school and at home, gives us all some small comfort around knowing whether students and staff are asymptomatic or not. If positive, we still have to take the usual precautions.

It has been a delight to see the students moving happily and purposefully around the school again; the vast majority settling in well to routines and practices. Teachers and support staff have told me how pleased they have been to see how keen students are to re-engage in their learning.

However, there are still a small minority of students who are choosing not to follow our policies and practices despite compromises being offered, so could I respectfully remind you of the following:

Basic uniform

- Grey Business Jacket with embroidered Academy logo (separate male & female fit).
- Tie: Years 7 to 10 – Blue and grey striped clip on tie Year 11 – Grey and blue striped tie.
- White Shirt.
- Black loose fitting, formal trousers or Skirt (knee length which can be straight or pleated). **NO LEGGINGS.**
- Black Shoes (not trainer-style shoes, boots or plimsolls. Wellington boots may be worn in snow but the aforementioned must be brought and worn once students are in school).
- Plain black belt, no more than 3 cm wide, if required.

Optional items: Academy black jumper with blue strip – no alternative is acceptable.

PE Uniform

- Navy and sky blue Academy sports tops (indoor and outdoor)
- Navy/Black tracksuit bottoms/fitness pants
- Training shoes

Cont/d

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Executive Principal: Mr K Reynolds, MA

A reminder about Consett Academy's Personal Appearance Expectations

We are always conscious of health and safety risks both to the owner and others in the wearing of jewellery. Therefore, the only jewellery allowed is a wrist watch. Piercings, facial or bodily, are not allowed due to Health and Safety considerations. In the Academy's programme of Personal and Social Education, we ask students to consider their appearance and the impression it makes on others. This is particularly important when on interview or representing the Academy for instance.

Make-up - Make-up, if worn at all, should be discreetly used and not be excessive. Nail varnish, nail extensions and nail decoration are not allowed.

Hair styles - Hair Styles should be practical, clean and suitable for a working environment. Please note - hairstyles representing various cults e.g. punk, Mohican, hair shaved in bands, stripes, initials or dyed in unnatural colours are unacceptable. Eyebrows shaved in stripes are also unacceptable.

An exception due to current circumstances

In light of the need to ensure good ventilation around school and the implication this has at times on the temperature in school, we have spoken to all students about uniform expectations. Where needed, students are able to wear outdoor coats/ jackets or an **Academy hoodie** to keep warm.

We would ask for your support in ensuring that students continue to attend the Academy in full school uniform, but with extra layers as mentioned if required.

As always, if you have any queries please just get in touch.

Best wishes



Kevin Reynolds
Executive Principal