

Dear Families,

### Uniform Changes for September 2023

We are writing to inform you of the final changes to our uniform starting in September. These changes were prompted in the first instance by the rising costs of living we are all facing and the Government's statutory guidance on the cost of school uniforms which was published in November 2021.

We have now reviewed the findings of our survey and have come to the following decisions about our Salmestone uniform moving forwards from September 2023. These changes will be phased in over two years so please don't worry if you have uniform that you are still able to wear and don't want to replace yet.



**Year 5 and 6 uniform with a chequered skirt and summer dress**



**Nursery - Y4 Uniform with optional Grey skirt**

#### Jumpers/Cardigans

These will be remaining the same with the same logo.

#### Shirts

The majority of families surveyed would prefer polo t-shirts instead of the current button-through shirts, something we agree would reduce the cost of uniform, however, as we want to make sure our children are ready for secondary school we will be **keeping shirts and ties in Years 5 and 6**. For the first year, we will provide a tie to all children in Years 5 and 6 so pupils can learn how to tie their ties ready for secondary school.

For all other year groups, we will be moving over to plain white polo shirts from September 2023. Again, there is no need to replace shirts if you have them already and we are happy for children to wear shirts for another two academic years. White polo shirts will be the standard uniform in EYFS and KS1 by September 2025.

#### Skirts

We recognise that the current chequered skirts are another expensive part of our present uniform, however, there were a number of families who felt that this was an important part of the Salmestone identity and so we will continue to have these as an option.

We will also be introducing a grey skirt as an alternative option.

**Trousers/ Shorts**

Trousers and shorts currently have to be dark grey. We are going to be allowing dark grey and black trousers from September 2023. We hope this will make buying uniform easier and sharing of second-hand uniforms more widespread. Trousers and shorts will also be officially listed as a uniform option for girls from September 2023 in a bid to be more inclusive.

**Summer dresses**

Almost all families wanted to keep our blue and white checked summer dresses so these will still be an option.

**Socks and shoes**

Black, grey or white socks/tights and sensible black school shoes will continue to be expected in school.



**New PE hoodie**



**New White PE shirt**

**PE Kit****Changing for PE**

We are aware that lots of pupils have found changing for PE in school more difficult. We had lots of feedback that being able to come to school in PE kit was helpful for children. We have listened to families' views on this and are happy to revert back to children being able to come to school in their PE kits on their PE day.

**Jogging bottoms/shorts**

These will continue to be plain black and are only to be worn for P.E.

**PE T-shirt**

We will be moving to a white Salmestone PE shirt with the school's logo or plain white t-shirt to reduce cost.

**Trainers**

We have no special requirements on footwear for PE as long as it is sensible and suitable for physical activity.

**P.E. sweatshirt**

This will be an optional extra - there is no expectation for parents to buy this.

We will be introducing a Salmestone school hoodie with a Salmestone logo. This is only to be worn on P.E. days in place of a normal school jumper or cardigan. Of course, a normal school jumper or cardigan over your PE kit is still acceptable on PE days, but no other hoodies or jumpers may be worn.

The new sweatshirt and the T-shirt will be available from the schoolwear centre.

Finally, please remember there is no expectation to throw away the uniform you already have as we are gradually bringing in the new uniform.