

Dear Parent/Carer,

We have become aware of an increasing number of girls who are arriving at school without the appropriate uniform. The standard of uniform amongst boys in the school has generally been better. Consequently, our decision to write to the parents and carers of all girls in the school has been carefully considered.

The issue we have currently is two fold:-

The school uniform states clearly that trousers should be **traditional, plain medium grey (not cord, denim or jersey)**. The most prevalent issue at the moment has been the number of girls arriving at school in 'jersey leggings'. We have been advised that some local retailers are advertising these as 'school trousers'; they may be trousers for some schools but they have never been Kingstone School trousers. Under no circumstances could these trousers be construed as 'traditional'. Incidentally, although it remains the parents'/carers' prerogative to buy uniform from the shop of their choice, there would be no such misunderstandings if the trousers, along with other items of uniform, were purchased from our on site shop.

The second concern that again appears to be more prevalent amongst girls has been the wearing of boots around school. Again, the uniform states clearly **traditional black shoes**. We would add that this becomes even more noticeable when the boots are worn with skirts. Arguably, it would be hard to know whether they were shoes or boots if covered by traditional trousers.

We remain committed to maintaining high standards of appearance; our experience is that parents/carers are supportive of the position we take and was, in many cases, a factor for consideration when choosing Kingstone for their child's education.

We have always been reluctant to send children home when they arrive at school improperly dressed. However, given the publicity that we have given to uniform over the years, including this advanced notice, we would be justified in taking this action in future. Any such absence would more than likely be recorded as unauthorised.

We are confident that parents and carers will respond in the typically supportive manner to which we have become accustomed and that on 4th January, 2012, when checks will be made on our return to school, we will see all pupils suitably dressed for school.

Yours sincerely,

I. Ellam

Mr. I. Ellam
Joint Headteacher

P. Gallagher

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Joint Headteacher