



St Michael and St Martin Catholic Primary School

Belgrave Road, Hounslow, Middlesex TW4 7AG

Headteacher : Mrs N Duggan

Chair of Governors : Mrs Sandra D'Souza- Zerkhfaoui



Learning our faith, Living our faith, Loving our faith

5th February 2018

Dear Parents / Carers

I am writing to inform you of the changes we are making to our school uniform from September 2018. The changes are based on comments made by parents, pupils and staff following a consultation process and reflect the views expressed by the majority of parents who responded to our questionnaire. Pupils and staff are also overwhelmingly in support of the changes that are being made.

What are the key changes?

The school sweatshirt will be replaced with:

- Bottle green school jumper (boys) with embroidered school logo and yellow and white detailing.
- Bottle green cardigan (girls) with embroidered school logo and yellow and white detailing.
- Children will be required to wear one style (KINSALE) of summer dress in green and white stripe made by BANNER.
- A white short sleeved *school shirt* will replace the white polo shirt.
- Children from Reception to Year 6 will have a school tie in school colours (green/white/gold stripe).
- Full details of the new uniform are set out in the attached information sheet and a sample of the uniform is on display in our entrance, on our Website (*Latest News*) and will be attached to this week's Newsletter. Please note that the grey trousers/shorts for boys and green skirt/pinafore for girls will remain the same.

Why are we changing our uniform?

- To strengthen our identity as a Catholic school where our uniform reflects our high expectations for all whilst respecting that every individual is created equal before God.
- To strengthen the sense of pride, identity and belonging we have from being part of the Catholic community of St Michael & St Martin School.
- To reflect our status as an 'Outstanding' school which is proud to provide the highest quality Catholic education for pupils within the Hounslow community
- To respond to concerns raised by parents regarding the "smartness" and "quality" of our uniform.



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In making changes to the uniform we have taken account of Department for Education guidelines in ensuring that parents get '*best value for money*' and the majority of items are easily available from a range of shops. Therefore, in making these changes to our uniform, we have ensured that only three items (the school jumper/cardigan, P.E polo shirt and school tie) have to be purchased from **one supplier**. The remainder of the items can be bought at very reasonable prices from any shop or supermarket that stocks school uniform.

Where to buy the new uniform?

Despite looking into several options for providing and selling the school uniform including our own school shop and on line providers; we have decided to continue to use the current supplier **SANCO SCHOOLWEAR** in Bell Road.

It is important that we use the school supplier **only**. Part of the issue around the quality/ colour of the current uniform is because other suppliers produce jumpers and cardigans which are not of the same quality. Furthermore, I have sought guarantees that the suppliers used by SANCO are morally sound and abide by the principles of the Ethical Trade Initiative (ETI) (please see School Uniform page on the website for further information about this).

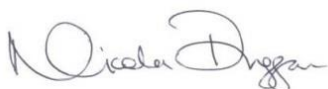
The cost of the new school jumper/cardigan will be £16-£18, the school tie will cost £4 and the PE t-shirt will be £7.50-£8.50.

How will the school help parents prepare for the new uniform?

- The new uniform will be available to purchase in approximately six weeks' time (I will inform you of the exact date nearer the time).
- We understand that purchasing school uniform can be costly for parents therefore we will be phasing it in through the Summer Term. It will however be compulsory for all children to wear the full winter uniform by **September 2018**.
- Please note Summer dresses for girls may only be worn in the Summer Term and the first half of the Autumn Term. All children must be in winter uniform at all other times.
- The compulsory summer dress **MUST** be worn from Summer Term 2019 (it will be available to purchase for Summer Term 2018 if you so wish).

We thank you in advance for your support and cooperation as we go through the transition process and look forward to our children looking smart and feeling proud of their new school uniform.

Yours sincerely



Mrs N Duggan
Headteacher