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26th June 2024

Hello,

This seems like the right time to clarify how and where to purchase school dress code and what help is available for families to support this. I hope you find the information useful.

Our position on uniform remains the same- all pupils are expected to wear something that identifies them as a pupil of Culloden Academy and nothing else with a logo. The reasons for this are:

1. It improves school security by making it easier to identify intruders. This has been a problem in Inverness schools recently and since keeping you safe is part of my job, I need your help with it.
2. I think we still have work to do to get back to the level of community feeling we had prior to lockdown and masks. All wearing similar clothes is part of that sense of being a community and allows a simple focus on what matters- learning.
3. Dressing for the task at hand- learning- encourages better conduct and improves the atmosphere for learning.
4. It could help to reduce truancy by identifying pupils when not in school.
5. It heightens the reputation of the school in the community- some of whom are future employers of our young people.

I hope that makes sense- safety, community and learning are all enhanced by it. The school tie is both the smartest and the most affordable and therefore the preferred option of the school. School ties can be purchased from the school office. For some pupils the tie is uncomfortable and alien to them which is why the school's uniform supplier has added black and white round neck and v-neck t-shirts to the website. In addition, we have a stock of polo shirts with logos on them and these can be purchased directly from the office.

I am aware that everything comes at a cost. Our preferred supplier is an online supplier and therefore there has always been a postal charge for delivery of uniform to your door. In order to make it easier for you to support us with uniform, we have been buying in significant quantities of uniform from the supplier and you can come down, try on sizes and buy from us, avoiding the postal charge. The school office will be open Monday-Friday, 9-1 throughout the holidays to allow you to do this.

To receive free school meals and assistance with school clothing, your household must be in receipt of any one of the following:

- Income support
- Income-based Job Seeker's Allowance

- Income-based Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Universal Credit (where their monthly earned income is not more than £796)
- Child Tax Credit, but not Working Tax Credit, where their income is less than £19,995
- Both Child Tax Credit and Working Tax Credit where their income is not more than £9,552
- Pension Credit Guaranteed Credit

You can also apply if:

- you are 16 to 18 years old and receive any of these benefits in your own right
- you have no access to public funds, normally due to immigration status
- you are a family awaiting your first monthly Universal Credit award notice
- The School Clothing Grant is £154 for Primary School children and £165 for High School children.

Application

Clothing Grants and Free School meals applications for the school term starting in August 2024, open on 1 July 2024. Further details and the link to apply can be found at : [Free school meals and assistance with clothing | Free school meals and assistance with clothing | The Highland Council](#)

If you have any issues with our online application form or questions about the free school meals and clothing assistance scheme, then contact us by email at clothingandmeals@highland.gov.uk

Best wishes,



Dr J Vance
Rector