

27th June 2022

Dear Parents

At Orchard County, we take great pride in the appearance of our pupils and we regularly receive favourable comments on how well our formal uniform looks, when we are at competitions and on trips.

As we prepare for the start of a new school year, we want to remind parents of our uniform requirements, to ensure the high standards we enjoyed prior to the pandemic, are once again secured for the incoming year. We know many parents start thinking of uniform for the next academic year in June and July, when store discounts are available, so hopefully sending this information to you now is appreciated.

During Covid, on advice from the Department of Education, we changed our PE policy to allow pupils to come to school in their PE kit. As restrictions were removed in term three, we reverted to our original policy of changing for PE. A couple of parents raised concerns about their children changing for PE in school, so we asked all our parents and pupils to complete a uniform survey. I have attached a copy of our survey results for you to look at.

The staff and governors have discussed at length the issue of changing for PE in school and have analysed the pupils and parents' results. We have decided to **trial a new arrangement of coming to school wearing your PE kit, on PE days**. This will be **two days a week for each class**. If children are staying for an after-school activity that is not on one of their PE days, then they will come to school in full school uniform and change after school into their PE kit. We offer several after school activities throughout the week and there are several senior pupils who would be involved in some form of sport every day. We do not want pupils wearing their PE kit to school every day.

Please see the leaflet enclosed for further details. If you have any questions or need clarification, please contact your child's teacher or myself.

We will review this arrangement at the end of term one. Should the outlined PE uniform not be adhered to, governors will have no choice but to revert to full school uniform every day.

Yours faithfully

J McMillan

Principal

