



13 December 2011

Dear Parent/Carer

As you will be aware the Academy pupils are expected to have the highest standards of appearance and behaviour, I am taking this opportunity to ask for your support to share these standards with your son/daughter.

Uniform

It is expected that pupils dress in an appropriate manner which means conforming to a standard of dress, which is clean, neat and tidy. With the exception of a wrist watch, jewellery, including piercings, must not be worn. Pupils' appearance must be reasonable and conventional; therefore dyeing of hair in a manner which draws attention to itself, tram lining, head shaving, sculpting and extremes of styling are not acceptable. Highly decorated hair bands or floral bobbles are not acceptable. Make up and nail varnish are not permitted. We have a particular concern with regard to shoes which must be formal and black and able to take a polish. Trainers should not be worn in substitute for shoes.

The Academy jacket and jumper must be worn at all times until the weather dictates an announcement otherwise. We are aware that there have been issues regarding some items of uniform however Jackets are now available from the suppliers, therefore, we expect all pupils to have one by the beginning of next term. The details for suppliers are overleaf. We also recently exchanged the jumpers which had two green stripes around the 'V'. If anyone still has one of these jumpers, please contact your son's/daughter's Head of House who will organise an exchange. Outdoor coats must be suitable for the Academy, preferably grey or black but must not be worn around the Academy. We also ask that you provide a suitable school bag which is large enough to carry books; fashion bags and handbags are not suitable.

All pupils carry a standards card and, if they do not follow the simple rules outlined above, they will be signed. If they are signed three times, a detention will be issued in which pupils will be reminded of the standards they need to meet.

Attendance

Our minimum target for attendance this year is 93%, although we want of course to achieve a figure closer to 100%. We would like to thank most warmly the vast majority of parents/carers whose commitment to ensuring that their children attend school regularly and punctually. Unless a child is present in the Academy, they can neither participate in learning nor secure their prospects of academic success. Unfortunately, some parents/carers are not as supportive in this respect, and consequently we have taken the firm decision to enact the Fixed Penalty Scheme. This means that for pupils with unauthorised absences from the Academy (i.e. any absences for which the Academy has not given permission or absences where no explanation has been given) their parents/carers may be subject to a prompt fine of either £50 or £100. Penalty Notices will be used as a deterrent to prevent a pattern of unauthorised absence developing. They will be issued simply by post to a pupil's home after just one warning and cases of absence without acceptable cause will also include pupils caught on Truancy Sweeps, excessive holidays in school term time and persistent late attendance after the register has closed.

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Individual Learning Device (ILD)

As part of our effort to transform the learning of our pupils, you may be aware that Year 7 and 12 pupils have been issued with computers and as parents you have signed the Acceptable Use Policy. We are asking all parents to supervise internet use on these Academy devices, please be aware that everything accessed at home is flagged up when the device is logged into the Academy system and it will highlight inappropriate words, images and actions. If this happens you will be contacted and in some circumstances the device may be removed from the pupil. Please supervise your son/daughter's use of these devices.

May I remind you that pupils are expected to bring only essential items into the Academy. The Academy takes no responsibility for other items if they are lost or stolen. It is the responsibility of each pupil to ensure the safe keeping of all personal property.

Early Christmas Closure

By now you should have received a parent call text stating that the Academy will close at 2.15 pm on Friday, 16th December. Arrangements have been made for buses to pick pupils up at this time.

May I take this opportunity to thank you for supporting the Academy in ensuring compliance with all of these rules and to check with the Academy if you are in any doubt. We believe if we get these standards right, others such as respect, manners and academic success will follow. This term has been hard with the joining of two schools, both pupils and staff and the opening of a new building. We thank you for your support and patience and will continue to strive to make Hope Academy a beacon of good practice and the pupils a source of pride in the Newton community. May I wish you all a Merry Christmas from the pupils and staff of Hope Academy

Yours sincerely

Mr N T Hill
Assistant Principal
Student Inclusion and Welfare

All pupils are expected to wear the following uniform:

All

Hope Academy dark grey jacket

Hope Academy black V-neck jumper with **one** green stripe around the 'V'

Hope Academy tie

White formal long or short sleeved shirt (top button on the collar to be done up at all times)

Black formal shoes (capable of taking polish, slip on or lace up - trainers **MUST NOT** be worn)

Jewellery - one watch only

Girls

Black plain smart formal knee-length pleated skirt

Black plain smart formal trousers

Socks in plain black or tights in black or flesh colour

Muslim girls may wear a hijab, this must be black

Boys

Black plain smart formal trousers

Socks in plain black

Suppliers for the Uniform are:

Warrington Schoolwear
50-54 Buttermarket Street
Warrington
WA1 2NN
Tel: 01925 576868

Golden Child
25-46 St Mary's Market
St Helens
WA10 1AW
Tel: 01744 752003