



Whitmore High School

Port Road West, Barry, Vale of Glamorgan CF62 8ZJ
Telephone: (01446) 411411 Fax: (01446) 411422

Dear Parent/Carer,

The school has been working closely with pupils, parents, staff and members of the community to develop a new school crest/logo and uniform for Whitmore High School. For the successful opening of the new school we would very much like all students in years 7-11 to wear the new uniform. However, we are aware that for some students in years 8-11 this will not be possible. Therefore, for the academic year September 2018-August 2019, wearing of the full previous school uniform for years 8-11 will be accepted, though wearing of the new uniform is strongly encouraged. All year 7 pupils are expected to wear the new uniform.

The school's pupil cluster group - which involves boys and girls from Y7-10 at Whitmore High School, including pupils joining from local primary schools - started the process by putting their ideas to paper and drawing elements that could be incorporated into the crest. The group liked the idea of a strong Welsh symbol to reflect their pride in their national identity, as well as ensuring the crest connected both with Whitmore Bay, and also the wider maritime history and links of the Western side of Barry (including the docks and the Island). A designer developed a number of options and the governing body and school leadership team worked closely with the designer to develop the final crest - which is displayed at the top of this letter. We feel it is a bold statement that expresses pride in the strength of Barry and Wales as a nation, and the new school as it moves forward aiming to offer the highest standards of education and care for your son/daughter.

The pupil cluster group also contributed to the development of the new uniform for the school and parents, pupils and members of the community were invited to complete a survey to identify their priorities for the new uniform. We were always keen to keep the cost as low as possible for parents – although a high quality uniform is an important statement about the school, we would always want it to be accessible for all our community. The survey supported this idea of 'high quality, high value, low cost', so we have sought to limit the number of branded items parents/carers need to purchase. Feedback from the survey also identified that black was the most popular colour for trousers, skirts and shorts, with a white shirt/blouse, and these items are available from a range of high-street/online retailers at very low costs.

The governing body considered the final feedback carefully and has developed the attached school uniform policy. There will only be two branded compulsory elements of the main uniform: a plain black blazer with an embroidered school logo and a school tie displaying the school colours. The compulsory branded elements of the main school uniform can be purchased from £32. An optional royal blue jumper, with an embroidered school logo, is also included as part of the uniform.



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The governing body invited a number of local suppliers to apply to sell the uniform. This was undertaken to ensure best value for parents/guardians. The uniform will be available to order from the following two suppliers:

A Class Apart 9 The Parade Castle Drive Dinas Powys CF64 4NR 02920 515722 www.aclassapart.co.uk	Ruckleys 45 Holton Road Barry CF63 4HB 01446 700006 www.ruckleys.co.uk
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Both of these suppliers offer easy payment plans to allow you to contribute towards the cost of the uniform in instalments. Please contact the suppliers directly for up to date pricing and to set up your payment plan.

In order to limit cost to parents/guardians, the governing body wanted to develop a simple PE kit with limited branded items. There will only be two compulsory branded items, a short sleeve and long sleeve sports top. The school is currently working closely with the suppliers to finalise the design of this PE kit and will notify you when it becomes available. However, both suppliers offer an easy payment plan option which allows you to begin payments right away.

I am sure that your son/daughter is as excited about the new school as we all are here. This new uniform is another step in the community showing their pride in Whitmore High School.

If you have any questions about the uniform or any other matter, please contact the project team on BarryTransformation@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk

Yours faithfully,

Mr A Thompson
Head of Whitmore High School