

Crestwood Community School
School Coronavirus Update - Tuesday 23rd February 2021

Dear Parent/ Carer,

Uniform and equipment update from Monday 8th March 2021 to Thursday 1st April 2021

I am writing to inform you about **temporary** changes to uniform requirements for the return to school until the end of the spring term. In addition I would like to outline equipment your child will need to be able to return to school successfully.

For the upcoming COVID tests, taking place prior to reopening, students will not be required to wear their uniform for the appointment. Could I also request that all parents accompanying their child wait outside the school, whilst the appointments are being conducted. Unfortunately, parents will not be permitted to enter the building due to health and safety and safeguarding requirements. We ask students and parents to maintain social distancing at all times.

Due to the current situation we are unable to share equipment such as pens, pencils, rulers etc. At the start of the Autumn term we gave all our students, free of charge, a full pack of equipment. In addition, during lockdown, we supplemented this equipment through our Resource Hub. **It is now essential that students, on return to school, provide their own equipment.** All students will need pens, pencils, ruler, whiteboard pen, eraser and pencil sharpener as the minimum.

As you know, we always try to listen to our #crestwoodfamily's feedback and concerns. I am aware that many students will have grown since Christmas and that some items of new uniform will be required. We also understand that whilst online retail is available, judging the correct sizing can be difficult. Another problem for some of our parents is that they have been furloughed or lost their employment, so have financial constraints.

When our students return to school they will be required, as will staff, to wear masks in all lessons and internal areas, which we know will cause some anxiety. In addition, the classrooms need to be well ventilated on return, meaning doors and windows will need to be open to allow this.

I have consulted with the staff and have agreed that we will offer a relaxation to our usual daytime uniform, however **uniform can be worn if students wish to wear it, giving them a sense of normality.**

We are suggesting that warm sensible clothing, suitable for colder weather, can be worn as an alternative to uniform, for example joggers, sweatshirts etc. We also are allowing trainers, of any colour and boots to be worn. **The PE kit remains as normal.**

All other uniform rules apply:

- The only items of jewellery which are permitted are a watch and a single stud in each ear.

- No other piercings are permitted.
- No decorative bracelets or necklaces.
- Retainers, spikes and expanders are not permitted, facial and other piercings cannot be covered, they must be removed. Therefore do not allow these to be done in term times or holiday times where there is not enough time to allow for healing.
- Hair and Make-Up: No extreme haircuts (no shorter than a grade 2).
- Hair colours must only be natural hair colours.
- Nail varnish, false/acrylic nails are not permitted
- False eyelashes are not permitted
- Light, natural daytime makeup is permitted.

The following items are not acceptable, nor appropriate:

- Crop tops, strappy tops, off the shoulder tops
- High heeled or opened toe footwear
- Ripped Jeans
- Low waisted bottoms that shows underwear
- Cropped shorts and hot pants
- Logos t-shirts or hoodies which display drugs, alcohol or offensive language
- Hats, caps and hoods should not be worn indoors

I hope that you agree that we are trying to help you, our families, by relaxing the rules and give students the opportunity to acclimatise to being back in school in a comfortable way. If we feel that in any way this uniform relaxation starts to be abused we will revert back to full uniform with immediate effect. Therefore, it is absolutely essential everyone plays their role and to not spoil it for others.

To confirm the period of this relaxation is Monday 8th March 2021 - Thursday 1st April 2021.
On return to school in the Summer term from Monday 19th April 2021, full normal uniform will be required and expected.

If you have concerns, please do contact your child's Year Leader for further help.

Best wishes
Krista Dawkins
Headteacher