

21 November 2024 Secondary - Uniform



Penshurst Primary School

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Dear parent / carer

As the temperatures have plunged this week, we have tried our best to encourage students to stay warm and comfortable. Fortunately, our school building is modern, and our classrooms and corridors heat up quickly. However, because of the regular movements in and out, temperatures in the school canteen can drop lower.

Whilst we encourage students to wear coats outside at these times, the lack of storage in the school does mean that students have to carry their outdoor wear with them throughout the day. We therefore recommend lightweight (but warm) coats and hats that can go into a school bag when not in use.

After discussions with some of our students and reflecting on the difficulties experienced by students over lunch and break time during extreme cold weather, we will be allowing students to keep their outdoor wear on during these times when in the canteen. We will notify students during tutor time when this applies, in a similar way to how we allow students not to wear blazers on some days in the summer.

We will continue to expect students to wear their school uniform, without any outdoor wear, when they are moving around the corridors and in lessons and also in the canteen, when the weather is less extreme. This includes hats, scarves, and hoodies.

Please also remember that our school uniform policy allows for, and encourages, students to wear a school jumper.

As you will be aware, we operate an outdoor social area at the start of the day to allow students to assemble with their friends in a supervised area before the start of the school day. On wet days, we move this into the school building, and we will also be doing so on days when the temperature is low.

I would like to thank you for your support in this matter and praise those students who have worked with us to reach this decision.

Yours sincerely

Mr V Groak Headteacher