



Our ref : 0607/DMH/jp

16 July 2020



Dear Parents/Carers

## END OF SUMMER TERM 2020

As we reach the end of an extremely busy year I am writing to share some reflections from the year that has past, as well as important information about the beginning of the next academic year. Under the current circumstances it would be very easy for us to forget the fantastic events and student achievements that have occurred this year. I continue to be incredibly impressed with the enthusiasm, hard work and compassion of all the students to dedicate themselves to their school work and their extracurricular activities - they are the real heart of the school. This has become even more apparent during this crisis as the vast majority of the school fell silent, the buildings became empty shells and our teaching and learning was delivered in a way that is alien to both students and staff.

Quite rightly, our focus this term has been on the provision of a remotely delivered education. This has presented students, parents, carers and staff with different challenges than we would normally be used to. However I am most proud of the way that as a school community we have pulled together to ensure that we have come through this period of uncertainty. It has been truly heart-warming to see everyone's efforts to continue as normal as possible and take on all the challenges as they arise. No form of remotely delivered education is ever going to replace the classroom experience, but we have always strived to ensure that our provision has been the best possible. I cannot thank you all enough - students, staff, parents\carers and governors - for all of your efforts and support to enable this to happen. Without this very special supportive Parkstone community, this task would have been impossible.

For me one of the most important things during the time we have had to cope with the COVID-19 pandemic has been to keep people informed and I hope that you have felt we have achieved this, alongside the support we have put in place to ensure everyone still felt connected with Parkstone. We will be continuing this support as students return to school and have used the results from the informative student questionnaire to help us structure this provision and also inform us in our planning.

There are certainly still challenges ahead of us as we welcome back a full school in September but I for one am totally confident in the knowledge that we will rise to meet the challenges head-on and, in true Parkstone fashion, overcome anything that might be levelled at us.

Cont. ...



Attached to this letter is very detailed information about our plans for the new academic year; we have had to dismantle nearly every way we have been used to doing things in the past. This information is complex but we have tried to make it as simple to follow as possible and there will be plenty of time allocated to tutors in September to help students understand the changes. We are still dealing with an ever-changing situation where guidance and directives can change quickly and therefore the situation and implications for us will be continually assessed and changes made where needed. You will, of course, be kept fully up to date with such changes and the effects on the way in which we operate. I am sure that some of these changes will happen after school has broken up for the summer holidays so please do keep an eye out for any emails that we have to send. I already know that one such area will be that of school transport as currently we are not sure as to the format that the bus companies will be running, as you will see in my documentation.

Please can I ask that you read the guidance carefully and that you take time to go through it with your child as this will help reduce any anxiety that they may have about returning to school in September. You will also see that we intend to upload an audio PowerPoint to students in the last week of the holidays so they can physically see the changes and not be surprised on their return.

The arrangements for the start of the new term are as follows:

**Monday 7 September 2020 :** Year 12 students should arrive at 8.25 am for their Induction Day  
Year 7 students should arrive in school between 9.00 and 9.30 am  
PLEASE NOTE: students in Years 8, 9, 10, 11 and 13 DO NOT come to school on 7 September

**Tuesday 8 September:** All students in school at usual time - 8.25 am

### IMPORTANT DATES

INSET Days and Curriculum Planning Days – the school will be CLOSED for students:

- Thursday 3 September 2020 – *INSET Day*
- Friday 4 September 2020 – *Curriculum Planning Day*
- Friday 23 October 2020 - *INSET Day*
- Monday 4 January 2021 – *Curriculum Planning Day*
- Monday 19 April 2021 – *Curriculum Planning Day*
- Tuesday 15 June 2021 – *INSET Day*

Early Closures :

- End of Autumn Term, Friday 18 December 2020 – Early closure 12.30pm
- Open Evening – Thursday 1 July 2021 – Early closure 1.15pm
- End of Summer Term, Wednesday 21 July 2021 - Early closure 12.30pm

### STAFF NEWS

Sadly at the end of the year we have to say farewell to some members of staff :

- After nearly 30 years of working at Parkstone, Mr Petrus (Head of Science) is retiring from his post.
- Mrs Mathers will also be leaving the Chemistry department to take up a more advanced teaching position at another grammar school.
- Mrs Partridge is retiring from her post in the Drama and English Departments.
- Ms Wheeler is retiring after 20 years with the Geography department.
- Mrs Hardwick has taken retirement from the Maths Department.
- Frau Starosta is leaving the German Department at the end of the year to relocate to Germany.
- Mrs Beardsley - who kindly came out of retirement on a temporary contract to support the current Year 11 students in completing their Italian GCSE course – has now recommenced her retirement
- Mrs Moar is leaving her position as a Cover Supervisor to commence Teacher Training

As some staff leave so we welcome new colleagues to our staff team :

Teaching Staff :

- Mrs Emily Fenton      Head of Chemistry
- Mrs Helen Pannell      Teacher of Geography
- Mr Gavin Rusling      Teacher of Maths, Business Studies & Economics, Acting Head of Year 7
- Miss Nicola Peace      Teacher of English and Drama
- Mrs Nicola Walsh      Teacher of Chemistry
- Mrs Amy Cottage      Teacher of Modern Foreign Languages

Non Teaching Staff :

- Miss Shelbey Adamson      Cover Supervisor/Support Assistant

We have also made some internal appointments :

- Mrs Catherine Saunders      Assistant Head of Year 9
- Mrs Ann Bailey      Library Manager

### UNIFORM

I welcome your continued support in ensuring your child leaves for school in the correct uniform. We work hard to remind students of the uniform code and ensure it is adhered to. The summer holiday is often the time when parents look to replace items of school uniform and to help in this I am attaching our uniform list for parents of main school students so that appropriate items are purchased with particular attention to appropriate skirt length. I am also attaching information from Stevensons, one of our uniform suppliers, on the process for purchasing items.

### ONLINE SAFETY DURING THE SUMMER HOLIDAY

We encourage our students and parents to remain vigilant and alert during the summer holiday when not at school. Online safety remains an important issue and we advise parents to work with their children to ensure they are safe on the internet, particularly when using social media websites. Excellent advice can be found on <http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/>.

Lastly could I again thank you all for the exceptional support you have given to your child and to the school during this extraordinary phase of home education; it has been very much appreciated as have the wonderful messages of support.

Take care, have a wonderful summer, and I very much look forward to welcoming back all students in September.

Yours sincerely



David Hallsworth  
Headteacher



# SCHOOL UNIFORM

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At Parkstone we are very proud of our smart uniform and we work hard to maintain high standards of dress. We rely on the support of parents in upholding our tradition of smartness.

In order to ensure that the correct colours/styles are being worn, all items of uniform must be purchased from the school's suppliers:

## Stevensons

148-150 Seabourne Road  
Bournemouth  
BH5 2JA  
Tel: 01202 425192  
Website: [www.stevensons.co.uk](http://www.stevensons.co.uk)

## PMG Schoolwear

85 High Street  
Poole  
BH15 1AH  
Tel: 01202 686688  
Website: [www.pmg-schoolwear.co.uk](http://www.pmg-schoolwear.co.uk)

Purchases from alternative suppliers are NOT acceptable.

## **OUTDOOR**

**Students are expected to travel to and from school in their school uniform.**

- ~ Plain grey or black coat
- ~ Blazer with badge to be worn at all times of the year
- ~ Cycle helmet and safety reflective band for cyclists
- ~ Students are encouraged to wear sunscreen and hats in strong sunshine

## **INDOOR - Uniform**

- ~ Blazer with badge to be worn at all times of the year\*
- ~ Regulation grey skirt\* – choice of two styles supplied by our outfitters. Skirts should be worn no more than 5cm above the knee and be of a non-stretch material
- ~ Regulation grey trousers\* - only one style is allowed, manufactured by Banner and supplied by our outfitters
- ~ Grey V-neck jumper \* in school colours
- ~ Gold coloured cotton and polyester blouse\*
- ~ White lab coat\*\* with long sleeves for Science
- ~ Overall for Art\*\* (i.e. old shirt)

## **FOOTWEAR**

- ~ Socks\*\* – should be white, black or grey with no other colours allowed and worn at the ankle or below the knee. Trainer socks may be worn provided that they are plain white, grey or black.
- ~ Tights\*\* – must be plain, black, grey or natural and not patterned, with no footless tights or leggings. It is a good idea to have a spare pair in case your tights ladder during the day.
- ~ Shoes - should be plain black, and of a smart and sensible design with enclosed heels and toes. High heels, stilettos, platforms, canvas or suede are not allowed. Ankle boots, Doc Martens or other 'work' boot type shoes are also not allowed.
- ~ **The school reserves the right to ask for shoes or any other item of uniform to be changed if in our opinion they do not conform to these guidelines.**

\* *must be purchased from school uniform supplier*

\*\* *may be purchased from alternative suppliers*

## REGULATION SKIRT STYLES



## SPORTSWEAR

- ~ Shirts\* – black/amber (2 styles available loose or fitted)
- ~ Plain black PE Shorts\*
- ~ Training shoes – please ensure footwear is suitable for sporting activities, i.e. has good support and grip
- ~ Socks - white ankle
- ~ Long black football socks
- ~ A drawstring bag for PE kit. This may be of any fabric but should be large enough to hold all of the PE kit (plastic bags are not acceptable). Bags must be taken home after lessons, not left in school. Please be aware that lockers are not large enough to store large kit bags. Drawstring bags can be hung on pegs.
- ~ Studded footwear and shin pads - for use on the field; football boots are most suitable. It may be advisable to purchase these at the onset of your child's outdoor programme. This could be anytime from mid-September onwards. Your child will be advised of the appropriate time. Studded footwear may also be worn in the summer for activities such as rounders if the playing fields are wet and slippery.
- ~ Hooded sweatshirt\* – black/amber
- ~ Skort\* (Black/amber) - skirt with sewn in shorts – to be worn for games activities and representative fixtures
- ~ Gum Shield (safety guidelines – all students must wear a gum shield when participating in Rugby)

PE shirts, shorts and skorts should be embroidered with student's name. On the shirt on the right hand side in line with the PGS logo, and on the shorts and skorts on the front, lower left hand side.

## OPTIONAL

- Rain jacket\* – black with white piping
- Plain black tracksuit bottoms (brand names are discouraged)

*\*purchased direct from school uniform suppliers*

## NOTES

1. All uniform must be marked with your child's name
2. Overalls, PE shirts, shorts and skorts must be clearly marked. The name should be embroidered in letters at least 1cm high. This is so that staff may learn names quickly and may see names easily for safety reasons. All other items should be clearly labelled.
3. Books must be carried to and from school in cases or bags which protect them from the weather. Bags should be small enough to store in a locker when not in use.
4. Students coming to school in boots in bad weather must bring shoes to wear in school.
5. Hair colour and styles which draw undue attention to a student are unacceptable. In all practical lessons hair long enough to touch the shoulders must be fastened back at all times.
6. In the corridors students must wear their blazers at all times. During lessons in the classrooms students may take off their blazers to work.

# School Uniform

## APPOINTMENTS NOW LIVE!

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### Branches welcome walk-ins from August 17<sup>th</sup>

We are pleased to announce that due to the updated Government Guidelines on social distancing, we are now able to re-open our branches from **Monday 17<sup>th</sup> August** for our walk-in customers. However, in order to keep both our staff and customers safe we will have made some changes to the way our branches will operate.

### What to expect

To aid with social distancing we will be limiting the number of customers entering our stores at any one time. This will unfortunately mean queuing during busy times. We have also introduced sanitising stations for all customers to use on entry and for our staff to use in between customers. Walk-in's are recommended for those customers wishing to buy 2 or 3 top up items, those who need to return or exchange items or customers wishing to collect items previously ordered.

### Appointments

Appointments are recommended for all new starters or those wishing to purchase full uniforms. We previously communicated your Schools' recommended appointment window, for new starters to book a fitting, we are pleased to now be able to open up this window to all pupils, both new and existing. Please visit our website to book an appointment.

### Online

Our website continues to operate as normal, although extended delivery times have been advised by our external delivery companies. We recommend placing your order before **July 17<sup>th</sup>** for a pre back to school delivery

### Unrivalled 120 day returns policy

Our industry-leading 120 day returns policy means you can purchase now with confidence, even if your child has a sudden growth spurt before the start of school.

# STEVENSONS

EST. 1925

SCHOOL UNIFORM OUTFITTERS

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[WWW.STEVENSONS.CO.UK](http://WWW.STEVENSONS.CO.UK)



## SIXTH FORM DRESS CODE

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### Should include a combination of:

- Blouse / top that covers shoulders / smart t-shirt / polo shirt
- Trousers, dress or skirt (no tight fitting items)
- Jumper or cardigan (optional)
- Jacket or blazer (optional)
- Leather (or leather style) shoes or boots, laced canvas shoes – all without excess heels or platform soles
- Outside coat
- Plain or patterned tights

### Items that are NOT appropriate:

- Inappropriately revealing items such as low cut tops or mini skirts
- Bare midriffs and off the shoulder tops
- Blue denim of any description
- Combat trousers or camouflage wear
- No visible bras/bra straps
- Dresses, shirts or trousers with holes or tears
- Tracksuit tops or bottoms
- Leather or similar trousers
- Leather or similar skirts
- Jogging bottoms
- Beach wear
- Shorts
- Tops displaying large logos, lettering or slogans
- Leggings, jeggings, Lycra trousers or any skin tight type trousers
- Playsuits
- Vest tops, shoe string tops, strapless tops
- Bover style boots – with heavy studs/buckles/thick platforms
- Flip flops, open toed shoes or shoes without a strap to support the heel
- Excessive jewellery

**This list is not exhaustive and may be added to as deemed appropriate by the Leadership Group.**

### ALSO:

- Students may wear a pair of earrings in their earlobes and in the top of their ears. There should be no other visible piercings
- Hair should be neat and tidy. Extreme styles and colours are not allowed.
- No visible tattoos are allowed
- No hats or caps are to be worn around the school
- No earphones or headphones to be worn around school

This Dress Code is not optional. Any student who is unsure about any aspect of it should seek guidance.

**Students who fail to adhere to the Dress Code will be sent home to change.**