



12 June 2018

Dear Parents and Carers

Uniform

As you will be aware we have been consulting on some changes to the current Axe Valley Academy uniform for September 2018. We are continuously striving to raise the standards of uniform to represent the aspirations, achievements and potential of our students.

The proposed uniform change was to introduce an Axe Valley Academy skirt in blue and gold. This is to ensure that all skirts are consistently smart and appropriate for school use as in recent years we have seen an increase in the number of skirts that are too short or too tight and that are made from a range of inappropriate materials.

During the consultation period we received 9 emails from parents raising questions or concerns in response to the consultation representing 1% of parents. The responses to the questions are available on our website. We would like to thank all parents who responded to the consultation letter. Several emails also supported the need for a change to the school skirt and welcomed the removal of the current range of black skirts.

During the consultation period we conducted student surveys across all tutor groups. Our valuable student council also met to provide their thoughts on the proposed changes. They expressed plenty of positive feedback stating the following:

"I think the changes are a positive step forward..... my teachers can now spend more time teaching rather than wasting lots of valuable learning time dealing with uniform issues".

"This change will make things really clear and there will not be any confusion around what is and isn't an acceptable skirt".

"Bright, colourful and unique..... it will create greater Axe Valley identity."

"This skirt will create greater equality at the school with all the skirts being the same".

65% of students surveyed felt that the current skirts did not comply with the current uniform policy and they made the following comments – most girls wear the skirts at the wrong length, skirts are too tight, girls wear the wrong types of skirt, some wear skater style skirts. Nearly 70% of students surveyed felt that the proposed skirt was smart.

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We have made a final decision to change the Axe Valley skirt. From September 2018 students wishing to wear a skirt from Years 7 to 10 (optional for students in Year 11) will be required to wear the Axe Valley Academy blue and gold skirts.

We would also like to take the opportunity to remind all parents of the current uniform code to ensure that all students meet the highest standards of dress. We have enclosed a copy of the uniform code alongside a copy of the Thomas Moore uniform list with this letter which clearly outlines the expectations around all school uniform.

We have arranged for Thomas Moore to come into Axe Valley on a number of occasions to ensure that parents are able to locally make skirt purchases and receive a 10% discount. The details of these are below:



Date and time	Location
13 June 2018 5.00pm-6.30pm Shop Open	Year 6 Transition Evening Conference Room
3 July 2018 5.30pm Uniform display only	Year 5 Information Evening Main Hall
16 July 2018 2.30pm-5.00pm Shop Open	Uniform Sale Conference Room (Sign in at Reception)
21-23 July 2018 Shop Opening times	Thomas Moore Fore Street, Exeter

We would like to thank you for your ongoing support and look forward to the new uniform in September.

Kind regards

Jon Scott
Assistant Headteacher