

22nd February 2023

Dear Parent / Carer,

At Wickersley School and Sports College, our school identity is something that is very important to our staff, our students and our governing body. Part of this identity is the uniform our students wear every day for school. We are aware of the financial pressure on families and have been working hard to identify ways that we can maintain a high quality, long lasting school uniform, whilst reducing the cost to families.

We are pleased to announce that from **September 2024**, we will be making long term, significant changes to school uniform across our five secondary schools which will see a permanent reduction in cost to families. This will include modernising the current jumpers that are worn. As well as reducing cost, these changes will also have a positive impact on our environment, including making uniform recycling through our own Uniform Bank much easier.

Whilst we work on these changes with our partners, we have given much consideration to how we can reduce costs to families earlier than that and how we can bring these in from **September 2023** – in a manner that will not cause undue harm to our uniform providers, who have already purchased significant stock to make sure that parents have constant access to what they need.

From **September 2023**, we are reducing the mandatory purchasing of certain items for school uniform and PE kit. From this time, the following will apply:

 Students will only need to purchase a branded / logo PE t-shirt. Our providers will continue to stock branded hoodies and other items and we remain happy for students to wear these, but we are not asking or recommending that parents make this purchase. Plain black hoodie or sweatshirt and plain black PE shorts or sports bottoms are allowed.

The changes described above have the potential to save the average family £19.50.

We intend to communicate in full the changes we are proposing for September 2024 to school uniform by Christmas 2023.

Thank you for your continued support.

Regards,

Mr T Hardcastle Headteacher

