

Important Reminders/Requests

Dear Parents and Carers,

Life is very busy at St Paul's at the moment, as rehearsals for our whole school production are in full swing, which is creating a real 'buzz' and positive atmosphere around the school. We have only two weeks left until the Easter Break and I would like to share some key information/reminders with you before we all have our well-deserved holiday.

Uniform

Please remember that all children should be in the correct uniform (please see attached list) which is also available on our school website [St Paul's C of E Primary School - Uniform \(st-pauls.gloucs.sch.uk\)](http://st-pauls.gloucs.sch.uk).

During the Covid period, children were allowed to come in 'active' clothes for safety and practical reasons, to ensure that we could continue to provide PE sessions effectively. However, all Covid restrictions have been lifted and we need to return to our **usual uniform expectations**. Therefore, all children need to be in school uniform each day and bring a PE kit into school to change into for their active sessions (including Gym at GL1). This is especially important as the weather gets warmer.

Footwear

Even during Covid restrictions, the only alternative footwear to school shoes were trainers, but there have been an increasing number of children wearing other footwear, e.g. boots, crocs etc. Please can you ensure that when you are replacing their shoes, that you buy 'sensible black school shoes.' After the Easter holidays onwards, we expect all children to be back in appropriate school uniform unless it is a non-uniform day. If you have any questions or queries about this, please see your child's keyworker in the first instance.

Attendance

We would appreciate your cooperation in making sure that your child(ren) attend school regularly unless they are ill or there are exceptional circumstances for their absence. In their document, 'School Attendance – guidance for maintained schools 2020', the DfE are very clear on the importance of pupils being in school.

"Central to raising standards in education and ensuring all pupils can fulfil their potential is an assumption so widely understood that it is insufficiently stated – pupils need to attend school regularly to benefit from their education. Missing out on lessons leaves children vulnerable to falling behind. Children with poor attendance tend to achieve less in both primary and secondary school."

We have to work closely with the Local Authority, who regularly check our attendance figures, to monitor and highlight persistent absence. Parents have "a legal duty to ensure their children of compulsory school age who are registered at school attend regularly". (DfE 2020)

We have a clear Attendance Policy at St Paul's (available on our website). The national expected target is 98%, which is also our school target. Please do not be offended if we send you an attendance letter if attendance drops below 90%. We have a duty of care to ensure that we are monitoring attendance and working with families to reduce any barriers to regular attendance. It is also vital that your child comes to school on time, as coming in late means they are missing out on vital Phonics or Guided Reading time and it also can cause them stress and anxiety about walking into class late and having to play 'catch up'.

As per the policy, please inform the office if your child is absent on each day they are away from school.

'Kind, Safe, Best'

Children at St Paul's will know that these are our 3 expectations. They run through the 'veins' of St Paul's and help children to think about their own behaviour and also how to treat others. We would ask that you help to reinforce 'being kind' to each other by ensuring that all parents and carers communicate politely and respectfully with our school community, whether that is other parents, or school staff. Threatening or aggressive behaviour towards others will not be tolerated at St Paul's and whilst this is only with a very small minority of parents/carers, it is not how we do things here.

Online Safety

As we know, the vast majority of children are communicating online through social media outside of school. Recently, there have been a number of incidents regarding inappropriate comments or pictures being shared amongst pupils, or unkind comments being made when playing games online. As part of our PHSE/Computing curriculum, we do a lot of work around how to keep safe online but we would really appreciate your help with this. It is important that as parents, you are monitoring what media is being accessed at home, that security/privacy settings are appropriate for your child and that they know what to do if they feel they are a victim of Cyberbullying. We have to acknowledge that children are accessing apps and games (even if not age-appropriate), and we need to try to ensure that they are keeping themselves safe online.

Your help with these things would be greatly appreciated and please do not hesitate to contact school if you have any queries.

Thank you.

Kind regards,

Jayne Bevan
Acting Head of School

Uniform

Your child should wear:

Boys - Phase 1	Girls - Phase 1
Navy blue jumper or school sweatshirt	Navy blue jumper or school sweatshirt
House colour polo shirt	House colour polo shirt
Navy/black/grey jogging trousers	Navy/black/grey jogging trousers
Sensible, black school shoes	Sensible, black school shoes
Boys - Phases 2 & 3	Girls- Phases 2 & 3
Navy blue jumper or school sweatshirt	Navy blue jumper/cardigan or school sweatshirt
House colour polo shirt	House colour polo shirt
Navy/black/grey trousers or shorts (<u>no jeans</u>)	Navy/black/grey skirt, trousers or pinafore
Sensible, black school shoes	House colour school summer dress
Old shirt or apron for use in art/craft sessions	Sensible, black school shoes (no heels)
	Old shirt or apron for use in art/craft sessions

*Please note the difference in uniform expectations for Phase 1 children. By the nature of a Phase 1 curriculum, we find it more appropriate for the children to wear flexible and comfortable clothes that they can crouch, crawl and play in!

For P.E.:

Black or blue shorts

House colour T-shirt

Daps/trainers.

Please make sure that all items of uniform are clearly named.

Where do I buy uniform?

Most uniform can be bought from local supermarkets – Asda, Tesco and Sainsburys all have good supplies of uniform. Items marked with the school logo can be bought at the National Schoolwear Centre Shop in Northgate Street.