

13<sup>th</sup> September 2017

Dear Parents/Carers,

Our students have made a very positive and purposeful start to the new academic year and I am pleased to say that the vast majority of students are attending, studying and conducting themselves impeccably.

However, to ensure that we can continue to improve standards and raise expectations at Hull Trinity House Academy, we thought it would be useful to outline the policies regarding uniform, hairstyles and expectations around the consuming of food and drink on the Academy site to avoid any confusion for students, parents and carers alike.

At Hull Trinity House Academy, we understand the importance that many parents and carers place on our valued traditions and nautical heritage. Smart and exemplary presentation is key to our parades and symbolises our commitment in 'Striving for excellence in everything we do'. An important aspect of maintaining our high standards is a strict adherence to our uniform policy which includes hairstyles.

Please be aware of the following:

### **Students' hair must be in accordance with our policy**

- The length and style of hair is based firmly on the tradition of the armed forces and public services.
- Hair is to be of natural colour and an even length all over. It should be cut in the tradition of the 'short back and sides' meaning that hair should not be over the ears, eyes or collar.
- Hair should be neatly groomed in its natural state, and not altered by the use of products such as gel or wax.

### **Uniform**

At HTHA, we are immensely proud of the smart appearance of our youngsters. Unfortunately, over time, a small but sizable minority of students have begun to challenge the Academy's uniform policy. Already this term, this has become noticeable on parade. A smart uniform signals a parent or carer's pride in their child's appearance and positively reinforces the Academy's standards and ethos. Fashionable and fleeting trends such as 'skinny trousers' that taper at the ankles are not permitted and, if necessary, students wearing incorrect items of uniform will be isolated and a meeting with parents or carers requested to resolve the situation.

Preferably, students should wear Delta embroidered trousers with the distinctive logo, available from Rawcliffe's and Len Becks and plain black trousers with a regular fit are essential and non-negotiable in order to maintain our standards.

We firmly believe that our uniform makes a positive impression on visitors to the school and, moreover, why our students leave a lasting impact upon other institutions when we visit them. The Academy is committed to high standards of dress and the Governing Body, The Education Advisory Board, have agreed that acceptable and high standards of personal presentation and uniform play a fundamental role in maintaining our ethos.

We therefore strongly urge parents and carers to help our youngsters adhere to this policy and support the Academy in enforcing the very highest standards of dress and presentation.

Please contact the school if you would like guidance on aspects of our uniform policy or visit the Academy's web site: [www.hthacademy.org.uk](http://www.hthacademy.org.uk)

### **Food and Drink on the Academy Site**

Students are encouraged to drink bottled water to hydrate throughout the day. Flavoured, clear mineral water is also permitted.

**In line with our commitment to being a Healthy School, as of Monday 18 September 2017, fizzy soda drinks such as Coca-Cola, Pepsi Cola, Sprite, Dr Pepper, Fanta, Lucozade etc. along with energy drinks such as Monster and Red Bull will not be permitted on the Academy site and will be confiscated if seen being consumed.**

This is the case in the vast majority of schools up and down the country. Government endorsed 'One of your 5 a day' sparkling juices and healthy alternatives are available from the canteen and part of meal deals. Refusal to comply with this expectation may lead to a sanction.

Reconstituted snacks such as Pot Noodle and Pasta Snack Pots will not be permitted in the dining hall as these require topping up with boiling water from the hot drink dispenser and present a health and safety risk if spilt or knocked out of someone's hand. We would encourage students to bring pack lunches or purchase hot or cold food from the canteen.

### **Equipment in Lessons**

We have recently had a drive on standards and myself and other senior leaders have conducted lesson 'drop ins'. It has come to our attention that a small but growing number of students aren't arriving equipped properly for lessons. A pen, pencil and ruler are fundamental basics for the vast majority of lessons and I would encourage you to ensure that your child has these before setting off for school. Time being wasted on initially providing equipment and dealing with damage to (or the loss of) borrowed equipment is unacceptable. Students can purchase a pencil case with all the essential equipment for £1, available at Reception.

One of our key responsibilities is to prepare students for the worlds of further education and employment, where having competent organisational skills and being prepared for the job aren't optional.

May I take this opportunity to thank you for your continued and invaluable support.

Yours faithfully



Graham Moffatt

Principal