



27<sup>th</sup> March 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope this letter finds you well and looking forward to the Easter break.

In advance of the weather getting warmer and before any possible shopping trips for summer wardrobe items, I wanted to help you by providing some clarity about our school's expectations regarding dress code.

We are pleased to continue to be a school which has a dress code rather than a uniform. Time is better spent on supporting young people and learning starting promptly, rather than conversations about school uniform. We value the students' individuality, and they have the freedom to express themselves. This individual freedom has to be balanced against what is appropriate for a school and workplace environment. There are therefore, and always have been, some limitations on what students can wear whilst at AGS.

Students have a lot of freedom regarding hair style and colour, jewellery and accessories, their choices should not cause a potential health and safety risk. This mainly applies to dangly earrings/necklaces, loose fitting bracelets, or inappropriate clothing for the activity being undertaken. Students are not permitted to wear flip flops, sliders or have bare feet as they move through the school because of health and safety reasons.

Logos or images on clothing, which could offend or cause hurt/upset to others are also not permitted as part of our dress code.

Finally, inappropriately short or revealing shorts and skirts, revealing ripped trousers and cropped tops which expose the midriff are not permitted. As a guide, shorts or skirts should be longer than where the wearer's fingers would be if the arm was by the wearer's side. Underwear should not be visible.

On our return after Easter, we will run routine dress code checks as students enter the building. Students who are not dressed appropriately will be supported in ensuring they are following the dress code before they go into lessons or join in with the activities planned for them. This will be applicable to all students in Years 7-13. Alternative clothing, to replace any item deemed to be in conflict with our dress code, will have to be sourced. This could mean that we ask a parent/carer to bring in a change of clothing, or the student changes into something which they have with them in school.

I hope that this level of clarity helps in the conversations which I know happen in many households, about what is/is not suitable to wear for school. The excellent partnership which exists between staff and parents/carers at AGS will continue to allow us to work together in providing the best we can for the young people in our care.

Thank you in advance for your understanding and your support with the above.

Kind regards,



Malcolm Kelly  
Headteacher