

28 June 2023

Uniform & NEU Strikes – 5th & 7th July 2023

Dear Parents & Carers,

First, I want to say Eid al-Adha Mubarak to the many Muslim KAA families celebrating today. I hope you are having a lovely day. Secondly, there are two important updates I want to share.

Uniform expectations to end of summer term

Although the weather is slightly cooler now, we feel it's best to continue with the adjusted uniform policy until the end of this term. We want students to be as comfortable as possible, so they can fully focus on the important assessment and review lessons coming up, as well as enjoy the many events and competitions we have between now and the end of term.

A reminder of some key points;

- If students want to wear PE kit, it must be the full official KAA PE kit, with no non-KAA items. If a student comes in with a hoody (e.g., Nike, Adidas) it will be confiscated. If they wear a tracksuit which is non-KAA they will be sent home to change. Thanks for your support with this.
- Where students choose to wear normal uniform still, please note that shirts must be tucked in at all times. Ties and jumpers will remain optional, with blazers required only in assemblies (so students should bring on assembly days).
- The rules around jewellery (i.e. that it isn't allowed) remain unchanged.

A final point on the hot weather is that students must remember to bring water bottles and stay hydrated each day please.

NEU Strike Action – Wednesday 5th and Friday 7th July

I'm afraid the trade unions and government remain unable to reach an agreement over their current dispute, meaning we will face two further days of strike action next week. The key details are;

- Y12 must be at school as normal on both days. This close to their A Levels, it's essential we don't lose any curriculum time with them. Many lessons be taught by their normal teachers, with appropriate arrangements in place for any gaps that may appear.
- Y10 will also be in school as normal on both days. They have their end of year exams next week, and these mustn't be disrupted.
- With regret, we won't be able to offer in-person learning for Y7, 8 or 9 on these days. Instead, students and parents will receive instructions for what work needs to be completed independently on these days. This will be sent on the morning of each strike day, and students should be logged onto their email / Google Classroom from 8.30am ready to receive it.

I'd like to repeat what I have said previously on this issue – namely that all KAA staff are fully committed to our students, and any teacher who participates in these strikes is doing so only because they feel the education system is under great pressure in terms of funding and recruitment. Although these pressures may not be manifest at KAA, they are present generally in the wider system.

Best wishes,



David Benson
Principal