

## Announcement

### King Alfred's Academy Will Have A New Uniform from September 2018

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Consultation.

#### Background:

With the historic move to becoming a two site Academy in 2018, feedback over time has told us that stakeholders in the Academy (principally parents and students) would like the opportunity to review the uniform, and this seemed like an ideal time for a consultation.

#### How the consultation was carried out:

The views of parents and students of King Alfred's and catchment primary schools were sought in a variety of ways:

- Capturing initial parent views at the Saturday May 20<sup>th</sup> meeting
- Two main meetings with a working group of 30+ Year 6-9 students, the Headteacher and a uniform expert
- Surveying parents and students of King Alfred's and catchment primary schools
- Reviewing costs of uniform in the market place
- Paying close attention to the DfE guidance<sup>1</sup>
- Considering emails / letters sent by parents
- Independently run Student Voice with Sixth Formers who have completed the KAA journey

#### Outcome:

There is a desire for a new uniform at King Alfred's Academy. The work of the consultation, particularly of the Student Working Group in considering the design and style of any potential new uniform, has resulted in the exciting announcement of the new King Alfred's Academy uniform for September 2018. This will coincide with the exciting £multi-million transformation of King Alfred's to a two-site school and the considerable improvements to both buildings and the learning environment across our two sites and is a marker for the next stage of the journey for this historic school.

#### King Alfred's Academy Uniform

Picture A	Picture B
	 <p data-bbox="746 2101 970 2123">* Or dark grey trousers</p>

## The new King Alfred's Academy Uniform:

- Navy blazer with KAA badge
- Worn with a white (long/short) sleeved shirt
- Tailored dark grey school trousers or dark grey pleated skirt
- Clip on King Alfred's Academy tie, with House Colour embroidered on the logo.
- An optional plain navy V-neck jumper to be worn under the blazer

Being conscious of overall uniform cost, we have looked carefully at financial considerations of introducing a new uniform and our findings are outlined below. In most cases (based upon this limited review of retailers) the new uniform cost will be less expensive than the current uniform.

From September 2018 the King Alfred's Academy uniform will consist of the following, and typical prices of each garment are listed below as available from main High Street suppliers. **Please note that this is not a recommendation, but a review of some of the main retailers of school uniform. In view of our research, the pre-badged blazer and the tie will be the only compulsory items to be bought from a specific supplier. All other items may be bought in a variety of shops. This is in-line with many other schools and DfE recommendations.**

Uniform Item	Asda	Sainsbury's	M&S	TESCO	PMG Schoolwear
Pre-Badged Navy Blazer	-----	-----	-----	-----	From £28.99 (inclusive of pre-sewn badge)
Dark Grey trousers	From £5.50 (11-12yrs)	From £6.00	£11.00 - £17.00	2 pack From £7.00	A range of approved styles available (See PMG website for details)
Dark Grey pleated skirt	From £3.50 - £5.00	From £7.00	£10.00 - £16.00	From £6.00	
Plain Navy V Neck Jumper	From £5.00	£10 for a two pack	£8.00- £12.00	From £5.00	From £13.99 (50%poly/50%cotton easycare)
White shirt (short sleeved in summer)	£13.50 for 5 pack	From £4.50 for 3 pack	£9.00 - £15.00 2 pack non-iron	From £4.50 for 2 pack	From £13.99 Twin pack
KA Tie (clip on)	-----	-----	-----	-----	£7.99

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The above price comparison exercise shows the range of basic uniform item costs and the choices available for parents/carers if certain items are bought from a variety of retailers.

Based on the above, a new Year 7 student with **current uniform** for their first day at King Alfred's would cost as follows:

<b>Current Uniform Costs</b>	<b>TOTAL £66.40</b>
(For illustrative/guide purposes only)	
1 x Sweatshirt £13.85	
2 x Polo shirts £23.30	
2 pack trousers from eg. TESCO £7.00	
1 x cheapest KA coat (Mistral jacket) (up until July '17 compulsory but made optional during the period of consultation) £22.25	

The **new uniform** would cost out as follows:

<b>New Uniform Costs</b>	<b>TOTAL £48.48</b>
<b>(with optional jumper at eg. £10.00)</b>	<b>£58.48</b>
(For illustrative/guide purposes only)	
1 x blazer with badge £28.99 <b>As well as being an 'eco-friendly' garment we have been advised this is excellent quality and value for money.</b>	
1 x pack of white shirts £4.50 for a 3 pack (as available from eg. Sainsbury's)	
1 x dark grey pleated skirt/trousers £7.00 (as available from eg. Sainsbury's)	
1 x clip on KA tie £7.99	
In colder weather optional blue V-necked jumper can be worn, adding from £5.00-£10.00 to the cost if bought from Asda or Sainsbury's	

## **Introduction of new uniform**

We consulted both on the uniform and on the phasing-in of any new uniform. The new uniform will be compulsory for all in Years 7, 9 and 10 in September 2018. We will be writing to current Year 7 parents about a slightly different and optional arrangement for Year 8 September 2018. Year 11 students will remain in the current uniform for their final year.

Further specific details relating to all of these, and additional aspects of the new uniform will follow in the form of a new uniform policy after the new year.

## **References:**

<sup>1</sup> School uniform Guidance for governing bodies, school leaders, school staff and local authorities September 2013 - Department for Education.