

Ref: AB / PW  
Date: 28<sup>th</sup> September 2009

Dear Parent / Carer,

I am writing to update you regarding the outcome of recent discussions about the addition of a school coat to the Sedgefield Community College uniform. This matter was previously referred to by the headteacher Dave Davies in both the July and September newsletters.

As a school, we believe that it is important that we encourage our students to feel a strong sense of community and pride in belonging to Sedgefield Community College. There are many reasons to be proud of the school including the examination results that improved once again this summer and above all, the quality of our students.

Wearing the school uniform is one important way of demonstrating that your child is part of our new community. With the movement to our new school building now on the horizon, it is likely that a full consultation about our existing school uniform will take place later this school year. With the fresh start of the new premises, it would seem a good time to review and update our uniform.

In order to begin the process of updating our school uniform, the School Governing body have approved that one change will take place as from **Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2009**. All students in Years 7 to Year 10 will be expected to wear a common school coat. The requirements of this coat will be that it is **plain black with very minimal markings or branding**. We feel that this addition to the uniform will enhance the positive image both within the college and the wider community.

After **Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November** students in Years 7 to Years 10 will no longer be able to wear alternative items of clothing as coats; this includes hooded tops, sports tops, coloured jumpers or cardigans etc for school. With regards Year 11 students, they will be exempt from having to purchase a black coat, however if wearing an item of clothing on top of their school uniform then it should be a coat and not hooded top, sports top or coloured jumper or cardigan.

In making this decision we have taken into account parent response to the uniform item in the September newsletter and listened to the views of students. We have also considered the current economic climate; a common coat will allow parents the flexibility of purchase while a coat without Sedgefield Community College branding will not restrict the use and for wearing to school only.

Finally, I would like to thank those parents who responded and expressed their views on this matter. We recognise the importance of a close working relationship with parents and value the support and co-operation we receive from you in the maintenance of high standards of dress, behaviour and achievement by the students who are our mutual responsibility.

Yours sincerely

Mr Baird  
Deputy Headteacher

I acknowledge receipt of the letter informing me of the addition of a school coat to the Sedgefield Community College uniform.

Please print name of son / daughter: .....

Year Group and Registration: .....

Signed: .....

Date: .....

**PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM TO YOUR SON / DAUGHTER'S TUTOR BY**