

St John Plessington Catholic College

Old Chester Road, Bebington, Wirral, CH63 7LF
Tel: 0151 645 5049 Fax: 0151 643 1516
email: schooloffice@stjohnplessington.com
Website: www.stjohnplessington.com



16 July 2018

Dear Parent/Carer

As the academic year draws to a close, I write to you to thank you for all your support through the year. It has been another busy year with much to celebrate and look back on.

The recent Year 13 Prom held at the Hilton Hotel in Liverpool was a great occasion and a truly fitting end to the students' seven year journey with us. I was reminded that evening, that time passes very quickly and pupils get one chance at their education. What was obvious was the high esteem and mutual respect that exists between our pupils and staff, a legacy of the many years here of staff going the extra mile with our pupils. The students leaving our SJP Community recognized that they received an education here which is bettered nowhere else and a realization that they had been shaped and moulded with care and respect. They leave confident ready to face the world and make a difference.

The snapshot of the school that evening is a further reminder that what we have created here is an extraordinary school (in the true sense of the word) in which pupils are proud to be here and grab the opportunities that come their way because they buy into the vision that we as educators and you as parents present to them. Your support is critical to that success.

As you know, we recently had inspectors in from the Diocese and the report will be published in early September. There will be much to celebrate. This week we have had over 60 visitors from China as part of our ongoing exchange programme. Our Year 9 pupils have been on their D of E Expeditions in huge numbers and we have had Sports Day, Induction Day, a PE trip to Malta, an RE trip to Rome and a Sixth Form Careers Week just to remind us that we are more than just a school focused on academic achievement. This week our SJP Experience week is in full flow and I know you will appreciate that we take every opportunity to ensure the curriculum is creative and life giving.

It has obviously been a year of change and challenge. The pupils remind us that they have seen very little difference in terms of their daily experience and that stability is testament to the professionalism of staff at all levels. SJP is in good hands and next year will be one to look forward to with lots of opportunities to do even more exciting things. Thank you for that on-going support which is never taken for granted and which we rely on. We say goodbye to those staff who are leaving and thank them for their contributions and in September we welcome those who are joining us and excited to be a part of our community.

In practical terms, I have included our latest Uniform and Appearance Policy for September. There are one or two additions but, by and large, the policy remains unchanged. Can I emphasise, when buying footwear over the summer, that shoes should be plain black. Girls' shoes should not have large bows, tags or flowers attached. Boys' shoes should not resemble a training shoe. Can I ask that hair should be worn off the face please? The girls' skirts must be knee length; please bear this in mind when purchasing the skirt. Our pupils are proud to wear our uniform and our high standards can only be achieved with your support and co-operation.

Head Teacher: Mr S J Rylande BEd (Hons) NPQH

Deputy Head Teacher: Ms M Sharratt BA (Hons) NPQH **Deputy Head Teacher:** Mrs C Singleton BA (Hons) NPQH

A Catholic Voluntary Aided Academy, part of Holy Family Catholic Multi Academy Trust

I would like to raise with you the issue of travel. There has been a significant increase in the number of pupils travelling to and from school by bike. Whilst this is of course a positive, it comes with some concerns too. We have had a number of complaints from members of the public that pupils are riding their bikes on pavements putting themselves and the public at risk of being hurt. I am also concerned that most of our pupils choose not to wear helmets while travelling. We will address these issues in school in September and put some thought into what a revised policy needs to contain. However, I am asking for your support in the stance that if your child is travelling by bike, it is your responsibility to ensure they take precautions about their safety and they should certainly not be riding bikes on pavements. It is also a reminder to all our pupils and parents that our pupils whilst travelling in our uniform are always representing the SJP community.

We finish for the year on **Friday 19th July 2019 at 12.00pm**. Unfortunately, we are not able to provide school transport.

The new academic year begins on **Wednesday 4th September for pupils in Years 7 & 12** and on **Thursday 5th September for pupils in Years 8-11 and Year 13**. Both days begin at normal time (except for Year 12) with pupils expected on the yard at 8.30am prompt. The Parent Handbooks for the 2019-20 academic year will be available on our website when the new academic year begins.

Once again thank you for your support, have a wonderful summer break and we look forward to another successful year in September.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Simon Rylance". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'S' and 'R'.

Simon Rylance
Head Teacher

SJP Uniform & Appearance Policy

The College has its own uniform and PE kit which has been selected so that pupils will feel part of the College community. Items of clothing have been chosen carefully so that they are not unduly expensive, but are smart. It is the policy of the College that uniform should be worn by all pupils and students in our Sixth Form. This is because personal presentation is important in the world of work and we want to make sure that our pupils develop a sense of pride in how they are turned out. We would advise that all items of clothing are clearly marked with your child's name.

BOYS Y7-11

- BLAZER - French navy blazer with SJP logo (please note that the colour of the lettering on the badge is different for each year group).
- JUMPER - Navy, with SJP logo (a sleeveless version is also available); please note that a College jumper is compulsory from the beginning of September onwards.
- SHIRT - Light blue shirt (short or long-sleeved).
- TIE - SJP clip-tie (navy/silver stripe).
- TROUSERS - Black trousers.
- SHOES - Plain black shoes - without logos or accessories (*please note that black training shoes [or 'hybrid' shoes designed to look like training shoes], pumps, fabric shoes or boots are **NOT** acceptable*).
- COLLEGE BAG - An SJP College bag is compulsory for Year 7-11 pupils - there are 4 styles of bag available in the following styles: Satchel, rucksack, sport bag, drawstring.
- COLLEGE SCARF - An SJP College scarf is now available. This is optional but if pupils choose to wear a scarf, only the College scarf is allowed. During cold or inclement weather pupils are advised to wear a suitable coat for school. Tracksuit tops or hooded sweatshirt tops are not allowed to be worn whilst pupils travel to or from the College.

GIRLS Y7-11

- BLAZER - French navy blazer with SJP logo (please note that the colour of the lettering on the badge is different for each year group).
- JUMPER - Navy, with SJP logo (a sleeveless version is also available); the jumper must not be tucked into the skirt. Please note that a College jumper is compulsory from the beginning of September onwards.
- BLOUSE - Light blue reverse collar blouse (short or long-sleeved).
- SKIRT - Checked skirt (Bedford Check) **OR** TROUSERS - Black trousers. The skirt must be worn to knee length.
- TIGHTS - Navy or black plain tights (not patterned) **OR** SOCKS - Knee-length plain **navy** socks.
- SHOES - Plain black shoes - without logos or accessories (*please note that black training shoes, pumps, fabric shoes, boots including 'Kicker' style boots are **NOT** acceptable*). Please also note, large bows, flowers or tags are not acceptable.)
- COLLEGE BAG - An SJP College bag is compulsory for Year 7-11 pupils - there are 4 styles of bag available in the following styles: Satchel, rucksack, sportbag, drawstring.
- COLLEGE SCARF - An SJP College scarf is now available. This is optional but if pupils choose to wear a scarf, only the College scarf is allowed. During cold or inclement weather pupils are advised to wear a suitable coat for school. Tracksuit tops, hooded sweatshirt tops or other fashion outerwear are not allowed to be worn whilst pupils travel to or from the College.

PE Kit - Boys Compulsory:

Navy blue hooded sweatshirt / Navy blue football shirt / Navy blue polo shirt / Navy blue shorts.

Navy/white football socks

Football boots

Shin pads (for football or rugby)

Predominantly black or white sports trainers

Optional:

Navy blue jogging bottoms (plain) (Strongly advised for winter months)

PE Kit - Girls Compulsory:

Sky blue hooded sweatshirt / Sky blue polo shirt / Navy blue shorts / White football socks / Predominantly black or white sports trainers

Optional:

Navy blue jogging bottoms (plain) (Strongly advised for winter months)

*In the interest of health and safety, pupils will not be permitted to wear pump style footwear. Pumps, canvas style shoes, Converse, Vans and High Tops are not acceptable and must not be brought to lessons.

*Pupils are strongly advised to purchase and wear a gum shield when participating in activities such as rugby. ***When PE kit is brought into school, it must be carried in a school bag.***

BOYS & GIRLS HAIR and MAKE-UP

Pupils are expected to wear hair in a neat and acceptable style. Hair must be worn off the face. Hair must be of one colour, natural in appearance. Hairstyles (including shaved heads) judged to be extreme by the Head Teacher are not permitted. Lines or 'parts' are not allowed. Make-up, including coloured nail varnish, lip gloss and fake tan, is not to be worn. False nails, false eyelashes or other such beauty accessories are not acceptable. Hair fashion accessories are also not to be worn. Black or navy 'bobbles' are to be used when tying the hair back. 'Scrunchies' are not allowed. Hair bands are permissible but should also be navy blue or black in colour. 'Holiday braids' are not permissible. Pupils who do not conform to the College uniform and appearance policy will be sanctioned in line with our Behaviour Policy. **The Head Teacher reserves the right to make the final decision on what is, or what is not appropriate.**

JEWELLERY

Apart from watches, jewellery (including studs, rings, earrings or any other body/facial piercings) is not to be worn. This is because of the potential risk of accidental damage from the wearing of such items and they will be confiscated. Charity bands (except for the chosen College charity) or charity lapel badges are not allowed. We will do our best to assist your child in safeguarding their property. However, the College does not take any responsibility for the loss of or damage to personal possessions brought on to site. Large amounts of money or items of value (including personal audio equipment [such as iWatches, iPods, iPads or similar devices], electronic games or jewellery) should not be brought into the College. Such items will be confiscated by staff (and can be obtained by parents/carers from Reception).

MOBILE PHONES

We advise that pupils do not bring mobile phones into the College. However, we do recognise that some parents may wish their child to have a mobile phone with them as they travel to and from SJP. Any mobile phones brought in should be both switched off as they enter the school premises and put away until they have left the premises. We do not take any responsibility for loss of or damage to mobile phones. Inappropriate use of phones in school will result in confiscation without notice (a receipt will be issued and phones may subsequently be obtained by parents/carers from Reception). Should you need to contact your child in an emergency, please use the main College number 0151 645 5049. Do not seek to contact your child in school directly via their mobile phone.

DRINKS POLICY

We encourage children to lead healthy life-styles. We strongly recommend that pupils drink only water throughout the day. Fizzy drinks and energy drinks such as Lucozade, Powerade etc are now banned. High-caffeine drinks including Red Bull, Monster etc are also banned. If they are brought into school they will be confiscated and disposed of.