



14 June 2023

Dear parents and carers

Malet Lambert Uniform - Clarity for September

We would like to start by thanking parents and carers for your patience in waiting for final decisions on Malet Lambert uniform for the academic year 2023-24.

Additionally, we would like to thank those parents and carers who joined us for our uniform consultation evening on 6 June, at which we received valuable feedback.

We very much stand by the fact that, as with the vast majority of secondary schools, we have a school uniform to promote pride for the school and a feeling of belonging for the pupils. These factors contribute to pupils' wellbeing, removing the additional pressures of deciding what to wear each day and the added stress of meeting the potential expectations of their peers. A uniform is central to Malet Lambert building a sense of community.

Additionally, affordability is at the forefront of our minds, which is why many of our uniform items are optional.

The Malet Lambert uniform is remaining largely the same for the academic year 2023-24, with only two changes of note.

1. The wearing of skirts:

The wearing of a skirt at Malet Lambert for many years has been optional and crucially continues to be so. However, the current black skirt has unfortunately transpired into numerous different variations of skirt, which means our pupils do not look 'uniform' in the nature of the word. From September 2023, we are introducing a new pleated skirt which can be purchased in three different lengths and many different sizes from 'Steady Schoolwear.'



Before making this decision, we consulted with a cross section of current skirt wearers, our Governors, our staff and with the parents and carers who accepted our open invite to the consultation on 6 June. The current skirt wearers formed a consultation group, and the lead pupils met with two uniform companies. The same lead pupils will be conducting an assembly to all year groups in the coming weeks.

The group met a number of times, before deciding on the skirt pictured (left), out of a number of options made available to them. Final costings of the skirt are currently being finalised, but we are pleased to say that they are made from high quality long lasting material. They will be available to buy over the summer break and we are hoping to have a number in stock when we meet our transition Year 6 pupils later in July.

Once again, the wearing of the skirt is completely optional with black school trousers being the other option. A reminder that although available from 'Steady Schoolwear, school trousers can be bought from

a shop of your choosing. Any other type of skirt will no longer be allowed. As requested by the working group, skirts may be worn accompanied by black tights or black socks.

2. Ankle Boots

Our Pupil Leadership team brought to us many ideas this year as part of their role to represent the pupil body. They felt strongly that ankle boots should form part of our uniform policy and presented very articulately the reasons why. After consideration we have decided for the 2023-24 academic year to allow the wearing of plain black ankle boots. Ankle boots with a flat or moderate heel are permitted; anything that can be defined as a high heel is not permitted.

Hopefully this letter explains in full the changes we are making to our uniform policy for next year. Any questions or queries will be answered via the admin office. As soon as the confirmed pricing for all uniform items is available, we will send this out separately.

Yours faithfully

Malet Lambert Uniform Working Group