

# NEWSLETTER

## SPECIAL EDITION

### School Uniform

March 2011



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Carisbrooke College

During the last two months Michelle Russell, on behalf of the Island Innovation Trust, has consulted the parents, students and staff of Carisbrooke and Medina High Schools and the feeder middle schools on the proposed uniform for the new colleges.

Over 1200 questionnaires were completed either online or by hard copy. Meetings were held with the students at most middle schools. Students at Carisbrooke and Medina were also invited to put forward their own designs.

Much valuable feedback was received as a result of this consultation and your views and concerns have been considered in the decision-making process. A school uniform Governors' sub-group was formed and agreed the criteria for the uniform. Key requirements were that it must be:

- ◆ affordable
- ◆ smart
- ◆ easy to keep clean/wash
- ◆ of good quality and provide value for money.

Seven companies, including two local companies, were invited to tender for this business. The Governors' sub committee, which included parent governors, was involved in the short listing and the final decision was made by the Temporary Governing Body.

#### New School Uniform

The new uniform will be the same for Carisbrooke and Medina but each school will have its own identity recognised by the colour of the trim on the jacket, the colour-way of the tie and the school badge. Carisbrooke will have a blue trim and Medina will have a bottle green trim. The new school uniform will consist of a charcoal blazer with trim

and school badge, white (long sleeved) shirt, school tie, which must be tied at the collar, or clip-on for Years 7 and 8, and a long-sleeved, grey jumper with badge (optional purchase).

Boys will wear black trousers and the girls will have the option of wearing either black trousers (which must be wide leg or boot cut—skinny jeans are not permitted) or a black pleated skirt. The blazer, tie and jumper will be purchased via the school from School Colours, who will also supply the girls' trousers and permanently pleated skirt. These two items can be purchased from high street stores, in the appropriate corporate style, as can boys' trousers and boys' and girls' white shirts.

Shoes must be black and 'polishable,' trainers are not permitted. Next term, parents will be informed about the style and college requirements of items that can be purchased locally.

#### PE Kit

The PE kit will be supplied by Sportswear International, who currently supply the PE kit for Carisbrooke. This will consist of a polo shirt, shorts and socks. A fleece, tracksuit bottoms and rain jacket will be available as optional purchases. For Carisbrooke, the kit will be navy with white trim. For Medina, the polo shirt and socks will be bottle green with white trim; shorts will be black with trim.

#### Years 10 and 11

Uniform for Years 10 and 11 students will be phased out but there will be the option to buy into the new uniform, or elements of it, if parents and students wish, after the autumn half term in October. New school ties will be provided free of charge for students in Years 10 and 11.



*Indication of colours only*

#### Measurements

As the school uniform is being made specifically for us, it is important we ensure that the right numbers and sizes of uniform are produced in time. We are, therefore, arranging for the suppliers to visit the middle schools on **6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> April** to 'size' the students. This will involve the students trying on a blazer and a polo shirt. All appropriate arrangements are being made with the middle schools for this. A form will be forwarded to parents prior to these dates detailing the school uniform, and we would be grateful if you could indicate on this the items you are likely to be purchasing for your child. This will help us with our ordering.

## Ordering

The two suppliers, School Colours and Sportswear International, will be attending the Transition Days on **5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> July** to kit out the students. All garments will be available for trying on, and orders will be placed on this day and payment made.

The school uniforms will then be packaged per student and delivered to the school at the end of August for distribution. More details will follow on this, however, we will look to arrange for parents in Ventnor and the West Wight to collect these locally.

The school will be carrying a small stock of all the uniform garments in case exchanges need to be made – we all appreciate how young people tend to grow throughout the summer.

Medina College



Indication of colours only

## Addressing your concerns

### **My main concern is cost.**

*This was a concern of the Temporary Governing Body, hence the budget of £80 was set for a quality uniform.*

***I think blazers would make the uniform much more expensive than the present uniform.***

*We have sourced a good quality jacket for £27 which compares favourably to the current cost, and this still keeps the cost of a new uniform within the £80 budget.*

***The length of the girl's skirt should be on the knee or above.***

*The majority of requests were for the girls skirt to be worn above the knee but not too short, and this has been agreed for the new uniform.*

***Can trousers and skirts be black, as it can be difficult to get the right fit?***

*This was a concern for many parents, so we have arranged with School Colours to provide a skirt with an adjustable waist. Trousers and skirts (in the agreed corporate style) can be purchased from high street stores.*

***Can the tie be clip-on to prevent different sizes and students undoing the top button?***

*The tie for Years 7-9 will be clip on, and a traditional tie for Years 10 and 11.*

***The PE shirt shouldn't be white.***

*We agree! The new PE kit will therefore be navy for Carisbrooke and bottle green for Medina.*

***Can the uniform be easily accessible either from the high street or college?***

*The main uniform items will be available to purchase via the college, and items like trousers, skirts and shirts can be purchased from high street stores.*

***What about sixth form students?***

*Expectations of sixth form students' dress code will be discussed by the Temporary Governing Body in May.*

### NEW SCHOOLS' LOGOS

Designs for the new schools' logos will be announced shortly, keep your eyes on the schools' websites ...

**And finally ... our thanks go to everyone who took part in this consultation.**

### PRICES

The Temporary Governing Body set a budget price of £80 for a complete school uniform. We have achieved this by providing quality products in the following combination, which also provides parents with the opportunity to shop around and purchase shirts, skirts and trousers at High Street prices. Total cost of blazer, tie, jumper, PE shirt, PE shorts and PE socks from £60.75.

**In line with VAT regulations, VAT is charged on larger sizes.**

School Uniform	Sizes	Cost
Blazer with trim and school badge		£27.00
Tie	40"+	£32.40
Jumper with school badge (optional item)	22-30"	£4.00
	32-38"	£11.75
	40"+	£12.50
Girls pleated skirt with adjustable waistband		£16.20
	28"+	£15.25
Without adjustable waistband		£18.30
	28"+	£14.25
		£17.10
<b>PE Kit</b>		
Polo shirt with school badge		£9.00
Shorts	34/36"+	£10.80
		£6.00
	30/32"+	£7.20
Socks with school name		£3.00
	6/9+	£3.60
<b>Optional items</b>		
Micro fleece with school badge		£14.50
	34/36"+	£17.40
Tracksuit bottoms		£12.00
	30"+	£14.40
Rain jacket with school badge		£19.00
	34/36"+	£22.80

**Have Your Say**—We want to hear your views. Please send them to us via e-mail at the following address: [dianapenman@carisbrookehighschool.co.uk](mailto:dianapenman@carisbrookehighschool.co.uk) or write to Judith Richardson at the Carisbrooke High School address.