

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Re: Changes from September 2024

Please find within this letter numerous updates relating to the school from September 2024. Please take the time to read through these details, and should you have any questions or queries, you can contact us using beccles@seckfordeducation.org.uk

As you will be aware, SET Beccles School have been working in partnership with Sapientia Education Trust for close to 18 months. In September 2024, SET Beccles School will formally become part of the Sapientia Education Trust's family of schools across Norfolk and Suffolk.

As part of the move from Seckford to Sapientia, the school's current name, 'SET Beccles School' will change to 'Beccles High School' from September 2024. This is a key part of the rebranding of our school; the logos, marketing and branding associated with the Seckford Education Trust will cease at the end of this academic year on 19 July 2024 and be replaced for September.

School Uniform Policy

From September 2024 we will also be introducing a new school uniform as part of our transfer into the Sapientia Education Trust. We have taken this opportunity to review the branded items required for our school uniform. We recognise that this presents a cost to parents initially for a new tie and jumper. However, we feel that the costs over time will be reduced due to the removal of the school blazer.

Beccles High School requires all students to wear a school uniform. Our school uniform helps our pupils to feel part of our school community and new items have been chosen to be comfortable and appropriate for the activities pupils will undertake during the school day, as well as being more affordable than the traditional blazer pupils wear at present.

Government guidance on the cost of school uniforms

In the Autumn of 2021, the government issued new guidance to schools on uniform. The aim of this guidance was to minimise the cost of uniform for parents through a reduction in school branded items, allowing parents to purchase uniform from a wider range of suppliers.

Beccles High School and Sapientia Education Trust fully support making school uniform affordable and accessible for all children, and we have reviewed and changed our school uniform to reflect the requirements outlined in the statutory guidance.

School uniform requirements

Branded Items

From September 2024 we will reduce the number of branded school uniform items required. These branded items will now also be available from multiple suppliers allowing parents to choose the most convenient and cost-effective solution for their needs.

To that end, we will be phasing out our blazer. During this transition year, students can either wear the new branded jumper, or can continue to wear their blazer with a stitched badge that we will provide free of charge.

If you are struggling to access any item of uniform during the school year, please contact the school office for guidance and support.

Uniform Open Evening

On Wednesday 10 July, we will be hosting an open event for parents and students to come and see the new uniform, to check sizing and to receive full information on uniform requirements and how to order. We welcome parents and students from 3:30 – 6pm. We look forward to seeing you there.

Our uniform

It still important that uniform policy is followed to provide a shared identity for all pupils in our school. Our behaviour policy provides further details of the systems and sanctions regarding uniform compliance.

Our school uniform requirements are listed below:

| Item | Status | Branded | Retailer |
|---|----------|---------|--------------|
| School Jumper | Required | Yes | Coes / Birds |
| School Tie | Required | Yes | Coes / Birds |
| White Shirt | Required | No | Any |
| Black Trousers | Required | No | Any |
| Black Socks | Required | No | Any |
| Black Shoes (Polishable – Not trainers) | Required | No | Any |
| | | | |

Our PE uniform requirements are listed below:

| Item | Status | Branded | Retailer |
|-------------------------|----------|---------|--------------|
| Navy / Gold Polo Shirt | Required | Yes | Coes / Birds |
| Navy Shorts | Required | No | Any |
| White Socks | Required | No | Any |
| Navy / Gold Mid-Layer | Optional | No | Any |
| Navy Tracksuit Trousers | Optional | No | Any |
| Trainers (Non-marking) | Required | No | Any |
| | | | |

Local specialist supplier information

Below are the contact details for local specialist suppliers for the specific, required and branded items:

Coes: <https://www.coes.co.uk/collections/set-beccles-school>

Founded in 1928, Coes prides itself on its commitment to providing a wide selection of quality clothing along with a high level of service and customer care. From the beginning, we have maintained a strong ethos centred around these principles. We recognise the significance of providing exceptional service and customer care to generate a positive shopping experience. Our knowledgeable team and our efficient and friendly customer service staff create an environment where customers feel valued and supported.

01473 256061
help@coes.co.uk

Birds of Dereham: www.birdsofdereham.com

We are a long-established family-owned business. We are happy to ship to anywhere in the UK and if you have a panic situation and have been let down, then give us a call and we will always see what we can do to help. We won't promise the impossible, but we will do our best to sort your requirements in a speedy, polite and professional way.

01362 692941 | 01362 699130
enquiries@birdsofdereham.com

Unit D, 13 Yaxham Road, Dereham
NR19 1HB

See website for store locations.

The School Day

Also from September, we are introducing a new school day – moving to a three lesson day which will enable students to better access an in-depth curriculum that meets their needs. Moreover, the morning form time allows for a number of activities, including form reading, that will develop key skills and better focus students for the day's learning. Times for the new day are:

| Time | Activity |
|---------------|-----------|
| 8:30 – 09:00 | Form Time |
| 09:00 – 10:40 | Lesson 1 |

| | |
|---------------|------------|
| 10:40 – 11:00 | Break Time |
| 11:00 – 12:40 | Lesson 2 |
| 12:40 – 13:20 | Lunch |
| 13:20 – 15:00 | Lesson 3 |

End of Term / Beginning of Term

Finally, I wanted to confirm the arrangements for the end of this term, and the beginning of next term. On the last day of this term, the school will close at 12:00 noon. Students will be able to have lunch before they leave, and students will leave site, or get the bus home at noon.

At the beginning of next term, we will have a phased return to school which will allow our Year 7 students time to settle into the school. This means that on Thursday 5 September, Year 7 and Year 11 students will return to school. All students will then be back in school from 6 September.