



BIDDICK PARENT WEEKLY BULLETIN

Week Starting Tuesday 4th May 2021

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Message from Mr Delf, Senior Deputy Headteacher

At various stages of lockdown I wrote to you directly to share my own experience of how my children, both at a local secondary school, were coping.

My children's school, like many, were able to return to PE lessons by asking their students to attend in their PE kit on the days they had a PE lesson. To begin with, this seemed fairly straight forward. Both of my children were wearing the compulsory kit, as set out by their schools uniform policy. I had no concerns and was delighted that they were getting back to some sort of normality.

Our house in the mornings is busy, I am guessing it might be similar in your home too. Bags that should have been packed have been left to the last minute, typically, my son announces he has an after school club and can he be picked up, chaos follows, as we knew nothing of this and don't know how we are going to get him. Everyone leaves in a rushed whirlwind of activity. I must admit I am not particularly observant, racing to get to work myself.

However this week, in a brief moment of calm, I managed to see what my daughter was wearing. Her plain black leggings (allowed for PE) had been replaced by her Adidas leggings (not allowed for PE). Her official school tracksuit top was now a fashion label hoodie. Her 'PE trainers', now white Nike Air Max. "Are you allowed to wear all that?" I enquired cautiously. I'm uncertain if there was an eye roll, but the answer was definitely "yes, everyone does". She has mastered the art of not really answering my original question! Of course, as some of you might be able to identify with, this wasn't the case. Further investigation found that she had been spoken to by school. This week they have both been in their normal PE kit.

At Biddick Academy, we have tried to be accommodating. We desperately wanted students to take part in their PE lessons but understood that they may have grown out of their PE kit and the shops were not open to replace items easily. We asked our students to wear plain black tracksuit bottoms or shorts and a white t - shirt. Where possible their official blue Biddick Academy tracksuit top. Over time, a number of students have moved further away from this request, in some cases a PE lesson looks more like a non-school uniform day!

As a result, now that the shops have reopened, can I please ask that all students attend school in the following kit when they have a PE lesson on that day:

- Plain black tracksuit bottoms, shorts or leggings
- A plain white t - shirt
- The Biddick Academy blue tracksuit top

This will be the expectation from Monday 10th May. Students who are not wearing the correct PE kit will not be allowed to take part in their practical PE lesson. For the week Tuesday 4th May to Friday 7th May, students will, when outside, be able to wear a plain blue or black jumper. However, within the Academy building this must be removed. An official Biddick Academy PE tracksuit top, or Biddick Academy jumper can be worn indoors, the former only on the day a student has PE.

Should you have any questions on the above, please contact Mrs Dickson, Deputy Headteacher.

Thank you for your support. I hope you have a lovely bank holiday weekend.

School Meals

- Due to COVID-19 restrictions, school meals must be pre-ordered. Students can bring a packed lunch and snacks.
 1. Click on the following link to order a school lunch online.
[Click here - School Lunch Order Form for week starting Monday 10th May 2021](#)
DEADLINE Wednesday 5th May 2021 at 9.00am.
 2. Access the following link to log onto your ParentPay account to ensure there are sufficient funds for us to take payment once your child has had the school lunch.
<https://www.parentpay.com/parents>
 3. We automatically add daily Free School Meal allowances (£2.30 a day) to ParentPay using the information we receive from the Local Authority. If your child receives Free School Meals you will still need to place an order for a meal.
 4. If you are unable to access a device to place an online order, please contact us.

Year 7 Parents Evening and Reports

- Year 7 parents' evening will take place virtually by video on **Wednesday 17th May** via SchoolCloud.
- You will receive an email next week with more information on how to book your appointments.
- Any queries, please contact Miss Moore on moore.g@biddickacademy.com
- Year 7 reports are currently being written by teachers and they will be shared with parents on Monday 10th May.

Visiting the Academy

- 'Drop-in' visits to the Academy are not permitted due to health and safety. If you need to speak to a member of staff, please telephone and if necessary, an appointment can be arranged.
- We have been experiencing an increased number of equipment/packed lunch "drop offs" for pupils.
- Please ensure your child leaves home with **all** of the items that they require for the day.
- These arrangements are in place to protect the health and safety of everyone in the Biddick Academy community.
- If you do visit the Academy for an appointment, please wear a face mask.