



The Firs
Lower School

We need your help!
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16th October, 2020

Dear parents/carers,

‘Smart Learners’ – Looking Smart, Behaving Smart, Working Smart!

As part of **‘Working together to achieve our best’**, we expect all of our children to behave well and be well presented at all times. The focus on children’s behaviour and their appearance is very important because there is a very strong link between how children look on the outside, the way they behave and their attitude to learning and how much progress they make.

As a Pivotal school* we have 3 golden rules at The Firs:

Ready, Respect, Safe.

This simplifies the dialogue with children about their behaviour.

As you know, it is essential that children get consistent messages from all the adults in their life and so for that reason, **we would ask you to support us** in regularly reminding children about the following aspects of their behaviour:- (The words in **bold** are the key phrases we repeat to the children)

Ready	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remember your growth mind-set! (See ‘Growing your Mindset’ -‘our learning’ on website) Use your ‘magnet eyes’ and ‘listening ears’ in class ‘Best work always’ Tuck your shirt in, make yourself a ‘smart learner’ as you line up after play.
Respect	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ‘Care for everyone’ in our school community Be polite, listen to adults... remember ‘good manners’! Look after other people’s things Be a good ‘team player’
Safe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ask for help if you have a problem! Use ‘Kind hands and kind feet’ Walk in school and on the path into school If you are angry...stay calm, show self-control

We remind the children about the link between looking smart and being a ‘smart learner’. We tell them that if they line up sensibly at the end of playtime, tuck their shirts in and walk into the classroom quietly and sensibly, then they are **‘Ready’** to learn e.g. switching successfully to ‘work mode’ again. Our focus on this has led to a big improvement on how quickly children settle and concentrate at the beginning of sessions. This is really important because as we also remind them regularly, every moment of their learning time is precious and not to be wasted.

With this in mind, we would also ask you to support us in the following aspects of appearance, to help us make sure that our children look like ‘smart learners’:-

Adam J.G Campbell (Headteacher)

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- You **must** always wear The Firs School Uniform.
- The Firs School fleece **should not** be worn in class as it is an outer garment.
- 'Firs Leavers' hoodies **must not** be worn as this is not part of the school uniform
- Girls - only **green hairbands or green ribbons** – no fancy coloured hair accessories to be worn.
- Girls - nail varnish must **not** be worn at school.
- Tattoo transfers **are not permitted** and must be removed before attending school.
- No Jewellery to be worn in school (small ear studs are permitted but **must be removed** on PE days before they come to school).
- Only **Black** school shoes must be worn – no trainers allowed.
- During these unprecedented times, when your child's class is having PE, children should come dressed in their PE kit, which they will wear all day. This must be The Firs PE kit and as PE will be mainly outside unless it is wet weather, please ensure that your child has warm black or grey jogging bottoms and a spare Firs Sweatshirt or Firs fleece.

On behalf of all staff and governors, I would like to thank you for all your invaluable support and we all look forward to continuing to work in partnership with you, in the best interests of all our children.

Working together, we help all our children to do their best!

Yours sincerely,



Adam J G Campbell
Headteacher