



ABINGDON

From: Deputy Head Pastoral, Mark Hindley

Thursday 22 September 2022

### School rules on hair

Dear Parents

We are changing the rules on hairstyles, to allow for greater freedom of expression and to reflect the changing world and changing norms. The rules haven't been substantively adjusted for a long time, and a number of students asked us to review them.

We would like students to take this change in the spirit of cooperation intended and remember that at the core of all our school uniform and dress policies is the aim for pupils to look smart and professional in the way they present themselves. Please could you reiterate this message at home!

#### THE NEW RULES

Pupils can grow their hair longer than previously allowed, to a length that extends below the collar, but hair *must* be kept off the collar and out of the eyes, and look neat and tidy at all times.

If hair length extends below the collar, it *must* be tied up. If hair is long at the front, it *must* be tied, or held back. Plain, dark coloured hair bands or alice bands should be used. This is not just about being neat and tidy; it is also for reasons of safety. Long, loose hair in any style is a risk in laboratories, DT, on the sports field and in numerous other areas.

#### CCF pupils:

Pupils who have signed up for CCF are reminded that they have signed a contract (along with their parents) saying that they will keep their hair short, off the collar and above the ears.

Please note, the rules on shaving remain the same: we expect pupils to be clean shaven, unless they have permission otherwise, for example for religious reasons.

We have emailed all the pupils to let them know about these changes, so hopefully they are fully aware. If there is anything that you would like to discuss about these changes, please do not hesitate to contact me on [mark.hindley@abingdon.org.uk](mailto:mark.hindley@abingdon.org.uk). Many thanks in advance for your support, and I hope this will be a well received change.

Yours sincerely

Mark Hindley  
Deputy Head Pastoral

Abingdon School, Park Road, Abingdon, Oxfordshire, OX14 1DE

Tel: 01235 521563 Fax: 01235 849079

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