



First for Food: Non-School Uniform Day and Turning Tides: Annual Collection

Dear Parents and Carers,

First for Food: Non-School Uniform Day and Turning Tides: Annual Collection

Sadly, the coronavirus pandemic will see more than a quarter of a billion people suffering acute hunger by the end of the year. The latest UK statistics show one in three (4.1 million) children live in poverty in the UK, with an estimated 2.5 million living in food insecure households.

First for Food: Non-School Uniform Day

Despite record employment, the proportion of children in poverty with working parents has reached an all-time high of 72%. This figure is set to increase as the results of unemployment following the first 2020 lockdown are felt.

Across Bohunt Education Trust (BET)'s family of schools, there are more than 800 students eligible for free school meals, with a further increase predicted over this year.

BET's game-changing ethos is built on empowering students to act for a better world. With this in mind, it has been decided that **students may wear non-school uniform on Tuesday 1 December**.

Students will need to pay £1, which will be donated directly to our local food bank Redeemer to help support those locally in need. They should bring this in on the day. In addition, students and parent/ carers can donate The Trussell Trust – a charity supporting those in poverty and campaigning for change to end the need for food banks. Donate at: <https://www.gofundme.com/f/first-for-food>

If you need to access the support of your local Food Bank, please contact: hello@worthingfoodbank.co.uk or call 07918 759664.

About The Trussell Trust

The Trussell Trust supports a nationwide network of more than 1,200 food banks, together providing emergency food and support to people locked in poverty, and campaigning for change to end the need for food banks in the UK. You can find out more about the charity here: <https://www.trusselltrust.org/>

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I must stress that the following expectations will remain, despite it being non-school uniform.

- School jewellery rules will still apply
- Students should not wear fancy dress
- Skirts/shorts must be of a length in line with school policy
- No vest tops or inappropriately revealing clothing will be permitted
- No drug related logos/inappropriate slogans on clothing will be permitted
- If your child has PE on this day, they can still wear own clothes. However, what they wear must allow them to appropriately participate in their PE lesson.

Please remind your child to remember to bring important items, such as tickets for public transport and basic equipment, on these days. It is also very important to remind them to bring a mask. We have a finite amount of these onsite and did experience a 'surge' on our last non-school uniform day, as children often leave them in their blazer.

Turning Tides Annual Collection

In addition to this, every year since the school opened we have collected at Christmas for Turning Tides, a local homelessness charity. This yearly drive has supported hundreds of service users and allowed them to have some comfort in what is an especially tough time for homeless people. We are very proud of the connection we have made.

This year, we are collecting selection boxes as a gift for Turning Tides service users, to provide some small comfort in these particularly troubled times. This will begin from today through to 11th December. Selection boxes cost about £1 and are COVID-secure being that they are individually wrapped. Students can bring them in and place inside the boxes in our canteen. We hope to provide as many as possible and we hope you will support this drive.

About Turning Tides

Over the last year, Turning Tides has provided support for 896 men and women in the Worthing and Adur community, from accommodation and outreach, to community hubs. They attempt to offer a sustainable route out of homelessness and have 300 volunteers working alongside them. You can find out more about the charity here: <https://www.turning-tides.org.uk/>

Thank you for your support with these two key events, at a time when life is not so easy for many.

Yours sincerely

Mr Adam Whitehead

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