

## Uniform: Freedom of Information Request 1

1. In total, how many parental responses were received using the 'official' consultation process and therefore considered by the Governing Board?

**119 email responses were received ([uniform@callingtoncc.net](mailto:uniform@callingtoncc.net))**

What methods of response were counted?

**All emails received between 4 April - 25 April 2017 (and letters or emails that were sent to a different address during this period).**

2. Of that total, how many were against the proposal for a new uniform?

**44 were against**

3. Of that total, how many were in favour of the proposal for a new uniform?

**54 were in favour**

**(21 responses either offered arguments for and against, or asked general questions about the proposals)**

4. How many responders were in favour of a phased introduction of a new uniform?

**46**

5. How many responders were in favour of a College-wide introduction?

**28**

**(45 did not state a preference)**

6. You refer in your letter to less than 5% of parents and carers objecting to the new uniform - was this 5% of the responses received or have you come up with this percentage based on the total number of parents/carers registered at the College?

**Less than 5% (4.7%) was calculated based on the number of responses received that were against the proposals, out of the approximate number of parents/carers registered at the College.**

7. If the latter, what was the percentage of the number of responders counted in this process against the total number of parents/carers registered at the College?

**13% (12.8%)**

8. As at (7) above, what was the percentage of those in favour of the proposal against the total number of parents/carers registered at the College?

**5.8% (plus a further 1.5% of those more neutral responses which expressed a view on which option should be introduced)**

9. Please describe the process for gauging the student support or otherwise for this proposal - was there a proper survey of all students?

The student council were responsible for collecting student voice. The student voice process began with a series of assemblies. Students were informed that their year group representatives would be responsible for coordinating feedback for their year group. A meeting of the year group representatives for Year 7-10 was held on 18 April, and was chaired by the member of staff responsible for student voice, E Davis. K Francombe was also present. Student voice was collected by representatives from each year group by means of surveys and feedback from tutor groups and individuals. Each year group did it slightly differently but all students were aware they had an opportunity to share their views. A member of the Local Governing Board was available one lunchtime for anyone who wanted to speak to a governor about their thoughts. Each year group also had a designated time to view and comment on the uniform samples during lunchtimes. Students then reconvened on Tuesday 25 April with E Davis and K Francombe to summarise their findings. These findings were collated and considered as part of the consultation process.

10. Was the final decision to introduce the new uniform based solely on the consultation outcome or were there other factors considered by the LGB?

In addition to comments received via the official email address, a range of other factors were considered:

- Comments made during the Uniform Viewing evening on 20 April 2017
- Student and parent comments left on comment slips, and conversations held during the Year 4 and Year 5 Open Evening on 26 April 2017
- Student voice collected between 18 and 25 April 2017
- Comment slips left at reception
- Contact form via College website
- Views expressed on phasing in PE kit
- Preferences expressed over the skirt and jumper
- Rationale for changing the uniform
- Ability to address some of the concern over cost by negotiating and securing a reduced price from the retailer and facilitating payment plans or financial support depending on circumstance
- Staff views
- Awareness of anti-uniform activity online

11. What was the date of the Governing Board meeting that made this final decision?

**Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2017**

12. Other than the Principal, how many of the current governors were present at the meeting?

**Four out of the five members of the Local Governing Board were present at the meeting. The Governor who was absent from the meeting had been consulted on the proposals prior to the meeting and submitted their views.**



## Uniform: Freedom of Information Request 2

**Question 1:** Was the Board in possession of all the information contained in the attached FOIA response at the time of approving the uniform change at its meeting on 18th May 2017?

**Yes it was.**

**Question 2:** Assuming the answer to Question 1 is 'yes,' why did you choose to include in your letter the 'less than 5% objection' statistic rather than publishing all the data that would have put the responses and that figure in context?

**It was factually correct and showed how few parents had objected via the official consultation.**

**Question 3:** Why have you informed parents/carers that most responders were against a phased introduction of the uniform when the opposite appears the case? (And if your response is that you've taken into account other views such as staff and pupils, there must be data to support a view that is so clearly counter to that of parents and carers - the FOIA response is short on information here).

**As well as the official consultation responses, this statement was based on discussions with students, staff, parents/carers, College leadership team and local governing board. The essence of which was recorded as opposed to actual numbers.**

**Question 4:** Can you please advise me of the process by which a single supplier was selected to provide the new uniform. Did you consider other options / tenders?

**Blue Max Banner is a reliable firm that has been supplying THE College uniform for over 10 years. We were assured of their quality and customer service by the retailer 'Colins of Callington' who has significant experience of dealing with other suppliers and who assured us they provided the best value for money. The colours of the skirt and blazer are unique to Callington and very few suppliers could supply these items retaining the College's unique identify which is important to us.**

**Question 5:** What account did the Board take of DfE guidance on the introduction of school uniform or any other organisation such as The Schoolwear Association in deciding on how to proceed? <http://www.schoolwearassociation.co.uk/about-us/>

If you are not aware, there is no requirement under the Freedom of Information Act to specify in any request for information that it is a FOIA request. Rather, any organisation receiving a request for information must treat it as a request under FOIA. There is a requirement under normal circumstances for a response to be provided within 20 working days. By my calculation, the due date for me to receive a response is therefore 26th July 2017.

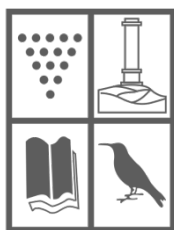
**The board was aware of the guidance and feels it has been followed.**

1. In entering into the single supplier contract, is there any financial advantage (e.g. through a cash back arrangement) or any other benefit through the contract to either Callington Community College or the Ivybridge Academy Trust?

**No the contract was between the supplier and the retailer. There is no financial advantage to the College or Ivybridge Academy Trust.**

2. Please supply me with a copy of any LGB minute where the new school uniform has been debated in the 2016/17 year. In particular, I would like to see the minute, and associated documentation, of the discussion on 18th May 2017 when the final decision to approve the school uniform was made. I assume there will be reference to the DfE guidance in those minutes.

**The local governing board minutes are available on the College website.**



## Uniform: Freedom of Information Request 3

**Question 1** - You stated: "Most people who replied felt that it would be unfair to single out Year 7 students during a major transition process and that if introduced the uniform should be compulsory for Years 7-10 inclusive. Most agreed that it should not be compulsory for Year 11 as they would be wearing it for just over two terms"  
Can you tell me how you got to this result?

**As well as the official consultation responses, this statement was based on discussions with students, staff, parents/carers, College leadership team and local governing board. Qualitative as well as quantitative data was used. Please see the response to question 10 of FOIA 1 available on the College website.**

**Question 2** - You stated: "Many people felt that a smarter uniform would be a very positive change for the College" Do you still feel the above statement is true?

**Yes, we still feel the statement is true.**

**As well as the official consultation responses, this statement was based on discussions with students, staff, parents/carers, College leadership team and local governing board. Qualitative as well as quantitative data was used. Please see the response to question 10 of FOIA 1 available on the College website.**

**Question 3** - You stated: "The majority of responses were strongly in favour of changing the uniform." Can you explain how you got to this statement?

**As well as the official consultation responses, this statement was based on discussions with students, staff, parents/carers, College leadership team and local governing board. Qualitative as well as quantitative data was used. Please see the response to question 10 of FOIA 1 available on the College website.**

**Question 4** - You stated: "Objections to changing the uniform were received from less than 5% of parents and carers" Do you feel this is a fair way to publicise the results? Or have you chosen a statistic to back a position you'd already chosen?

**Yes. The information was factually correct and showed how few parents had objected via the official consultation.**

**Question 5** - You stated: “However, considering feedback, both positive and negative, was an important part of the consultation process and the College has worked hard to alleviate and address concerns when drawing up the final proposal, taking on board and acting upon feedback received.” Given everything revealed by the raw data in the responses, so you still believe this statement is true?

**Yes. We believe the statement is true as is detailed in the letter to parents /carers date 22 May 2017, available on the College website.**