

Dear Parent/ Carer

Uniform Change – Clip-on Ties

I am writing to inform you about an important change to our uniform policy from Friday 9 February 2024. After careful consideration and consultation with staff, students and other professionals, we have decided that we will move from traditional ties to clip-on ties as part of our uniform. This change will be for all year groups.

Students will be given new clip-on ties in their House colour during tutor time on Friday 9 February 2024. We have identified the need for a smooth transition from traditional to clip-on ties and due to the cost of living crisis, we will be providing the clip-on tie free of charge. Students will be invited to hand their old tie in to be recycled. If any additional clip-on ties are required, these can be purchased from Skoolkit (either online www.skoolkit.co.uk or from their Eastleigh shop) directly.

The decision to move to clip-on ties was made with the safety and wellbeing of our students in mind. The clip-on ties also support students with SEND needs.

- **Safety:** Traditional ties pose a safety risk, especially in environments where there is a potential for students to engage in physical activities or use machinery. Clip-on ties eliminate the risk of ties getting caught or tangled, reducing the likelihood of accidents or injuries. The ties are also less likely to cause irritation.
- **Wellbeing:** Clip-on ties are more convenient for students of all ages, particularly younger children who may struggle with tying traditional ties. They allow for easy adjustment and will ensure that changing for PE is quicker and easier.
- **Uniform Appearance:** Clip-on ties ensure a neat and uniform appearance without the hassle of tying and retying knots throughout the day.
- **SEND Needs:** Clip-on ties will support students who have sensory needs and do not feel comfortable wearing a tie round their neck.

Some of our students have been trialling the clip-on ties this half term. They report that the ties are easier to wear and reduce the anxiety around being able to tie a traditional tie. We hope you will agree that the new ties look smart and professional, whilst also being safe and easy to use.

Having met with the suppliers, we know that the ties are designed to be long lasting, however, if you have any issues with them, please contact Skoolkit directly via their website or telephone - 02380 651278.

www.thehambleschool.co.uk

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Satchell Lane, Hamble, Southampton, SO31 4NE

Headteacher: Miss L Cambridge, BSc (Hons), MA Ed. NPQH

This change is in line with many other schools and we look forward to seeing your son/daughter in their new tie from Friday onwards. A reminder that our school uniform policy is available on our website.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'L Cambridge', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Miss L Cambridge
Headteacher

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'H Craggs', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Mrs H Craggs
Chair of Governors

If, at any time, you should require special arrangements to be made when visiting the school and/or in order to participate fully in supporting your child at school (e.g. an accessible venue for meetings, if you are a wheelchair user, assistance with translation of documents or enlarged copies of communications etc.), please do not hesitate to let us know.