

13th October 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

We are pleased to be able to share with you our plans for a Cultural Dress Day to be held at Haileybury Turnford on Friday 20th October, 2023. The idea for this day has been planned and suggested by our Black Lives Matter Committee, to raise awareness of the diversity of cultures our students and families are from and to celebrate our uniqueness and difference as a community.

Students can choose to wear **suitable cultural and traditional clothing**, but please do ensure the cultural clothing is in line with the school's ethos and is suitable for a school place environment. Examples of cultural clothing may include a sari (a garment traditionally worn in India, mostly worn by women), a kimono (traditional full-length robes worn in Japan), a kilt (knee-length skirt worn by men and boys in the Scottish Highlands), an agbada (a flowing wide-sleeved robe worn by men in West and North Africa) a sherwani (worn as a coat in South Asia), tracht – lederhosen for men and dirndls for women (traditional dress across southern Germany and Austria, flamenco dress (flamenco dancers of southern Spain).

Students and staff are invited to take part and wear suitable cultural and traditional clothing for our Cultural Dress Day. Please can we be clear that students are **not permitted to wear other items of non-uniform** and only students who choose to wear traditional cultural dress will be able to wear non-uniform. Unsuitable clothing includes football jerseys/shirts, leggings, jeans and a t-shirt. Students will still be expected to wear their student lanyards and ID cards to school.

Students who choose to wear traditional cultural dress will have the opportunity to celebrate their specific culture, identity and history.

All students who do not have traditional cultural clothing will be expected to attend school wearing full school uniform on Friday 20th October, 2023. We do not expect to see students wearing their own casual clothes and wish to make it very clear that this is not a non-uniform day.

Students who are not wearing appropriate clothing will be asked to return home and come back to school in full school uniform. Thank you for your understanding and support in anticipation. If you are not certain and would like further clarification, please ask a member of your pastoral team.

Yours faithfully

Mr D Zancan

Teacher of Social Sciences & Personal Development and Community Coordinator

