Dear parents and students,

Re: Tattoos and body piercings – item on the ESK uniform and dress code

Please find attached the ESK uniform and dress code. This dress code is similar to those of great internationally-recognised schools around the world and, just like every aspect of education of ESK, has been designed with our students' successful futures in mind.

We would like to draw your attention to the item which states: **Body piercings, tattoos and skin decorations are not permitted.**

It is important for us to emphasise this point for a number of reasons:

1) At school age, boys and girls are not necessarily quite experienced or worldly enough to grasp the real significance of getting a visible tattoo or other skin decoration. The permanence of tattoos and body piercings makes it even more important that students understand the implications of making such decisions at school age.

2) The reality of the world is such that having visible tattoos or body piercings may disadvantage our students as they go on to employment.   We do not wish for our students to be so disadvantaged. We wish for them to be able to choose from a vast pool of employment opportunities around the world, to keep their options open, and not to be disappointed or rejected on the basis of appearance.

3) Whilst students might believe that tattoos are fashionable and a statement of their generation, the reality is that the people who will employ them will more probably be from a different generation, with different views.

4) Older students set an example to our very impressionable younger students. By getting visible tattoos, our older students may inadvertently mislead the younger ones.

Your understanding and support here is very important to us. Important decisions like getting permanent tattoos and skin decorations should be left to later life, when students have experienced the world and have a fuller understanding of the implications of such decisions.

Kind regards,

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