What is changing?
Chatham used to supply uniforms through its onsite shop. Now it will use the services of a 3rd party to sell our uniforms. Also, some items that have not been selling are going to be deleted from the Uniform List from 2013.

Why is Chatham changing the way we sell uniforms?
The school has been concerned about the sustainability of the Uniform Shop for some time. The primary focus has been on providing value to parents, but this has come at a cost to the school as our buying power has eroded over time. The school cannot keep funding the shop as we have been, and have chosen a 3rd party uniform shop to manage the uniforms for us. Our preferred supplier is close to the school and will ensure value for money for the Chatham community whilst ensuring the highest possible standards in garments.

Additionally, we would like to use the uniform to create a sense of identity and pride in the school. As a result, the school uniform subcommittee will be making reviews to the Standard Uniform List in future, together with our preferred supplier and in line with the School Uniform Policy, which has also been updated.

Who is Chatham’s preferred supplier?
We have just signed a 3 year contract with Surrey Clothing, 161 Union Rd, Surrey Hills.

When will the change occur?
The Uniform shop at the school will have its last trading day on Thursday the 13th of December. Surrey Clothing will begin selling the school uniform from their premises from Monday the 17th of December.

Are there any changes to the uniform?
There are items on the list that have had very little movement, so we are going to delete these from the Standard Uniform List. Items that have been flagged for deletion will be on a separate list called “Phase Out Uniform List” which will be on the website from early December.

When an item is “deleted” can I still wear it?
We appreciate that it is not practical for parents to stop their children wearing items if they have been flagged for deletion, so we plan to “phase out” items. When the item/s has been identified as “deleted” it means that the Surrey Clothing will not order anymore stock. The parents can buy the item only whilst stocks last and the items are to be phased out over a 3 year period. So you can still hand the item down to siblings in this period if you need to. The items that will be deleted will be flagged on the current Uniform List when a change occurs and also listed on a “Phase Out items” list which will be updated on the School website from Feb 2013.
**What is in it for the school?**

The school is looking to instil a greater sense of identity and pride in the uniform. We hope that the experience Surrey Clothing has in providing quality uniforms at competitive prices helps us achieve this. Additionally, Surrey Clothing pays a 10% commission to the school on all sales and this is a big improvement on our previous model where it was costing us money.

**What benefits will I see?**

Parents should expect the competitive prices to remain in line with our existing list, as well as extended opening hours, online ordering capabilities, items to be in stock when we need them or if on back order at significantly reduced lead times. The store is also very close to the school and the uniform manufacturing of good quality.

**How can I get involved?**

By buying the school uniform through Surrey Clothing you are helping the school. But, if you want to get more involved there is a “School Uniform” subcommittee. It will have quarterly meetings with Surrey Clothing to ensure both parties are meeting their obligations. This subcommittee will help formulate / update the uniform list for endorsement by school council and manage the feedback and improvement process.

**Who is managing the relationship with the Preferred Supplier?**

The Principal has signed the contract with Surrey Clothing on the endorsement of School Council. The Uniform Subcommittee will manage the operations of the contract on behalf of the School Council. The Teachers will implement the School Uniform Policy.

**Has the School Uniform Policy changed?**

Yes, in line with our obligations to Surrey Clothing. You can find the revised Uniform Policy on the school website.

**What is changing in the school Uniform Policy?**

The Uniform Policy has also been updated to primarily reflect the obligation we now have to Surrey Clothing. Some key changes are around compliance to the Standard Uniform List and wearing only items that match those on the list. Items no longer acceptable are pleated netball skirts & black leggings for girls. The Uniform Policy has been endorsed by School Council and will be implemented by the Teachers from 2013.

**What shoes can I wear?**

Sneakers are still acceptable and practical.
What if my child doesn’t want to wear the approved uniform?
You will need to seek an exemption from the Principal.

My child has been wearing green items to school; they are not the Chatham uniform. Can they still wear this?
No, unless an exemption is granted from the Principal. The school wants to encourage the wearing of the uniform so children can identify with Chatham.

I have an approved item but have had to put a zip in it so my child can wear it. Is this approved?
Technically this not approved. Any changes to the design of those items on the uniform list are considered non compliant. However, if you have a legitimate reason for the change, you can seek an exemption from the Principal. We are aware of design issues for some items and will be working to rectify these over the next 12 months with Surrey Clothing.

Can I still buy second hand clothing?
Yes, you can continue to buy second hand items that are in excellent condition from the office. Moving forward into 2013, we want to enhance this program as part of our changes. We want to encourage the departing families to donate their second hand items (as long as they are compliant with the Uniform List) back to the school. The money made from the second hand items will go directly back to the school, whilst assisting families and also being sustainable. Stay tuned on this space, this is an exciting piece of our change!

How can I have my say?
There is a feedback section on the Surrey Clothing website. Feel free to provide constructive feedback; it will be reviewed at the quarterly meetings with the school. Your feedback is important as we all need to have input to make this work.