



# Power Technical (PTEC)

a James Irwin Charter School

## Policy for Personal Protective Equipment and Uniform items

As the school year progresses, we find ourselves facing a recurring problem – students are not bringing their PPE to shop classes, and students are forgetting uniform items (belts, PTEC shirts, or jeans that are not appropriate (holes, frays, skinny jeans). Our concern for these items falls under safety as outlined in our handbook.

For those who may be unfamiliar with the term, PPE is an acronym for **Personal Protective Equipment** and is equipment worn to minimize exposure to hazards that cause serious workplace injuries and illnesses. These injuries and illnesses may result from contact with chemical, physical, electrical, mechanical, or other workplace hazards. Some examples of uniform safety hazards may be: holes, frays catching on fire, and splinters from exposed skin, i.e. jeans not covering the tongue of their shoes allow for their skin to be exposed, to name a few. Though we are a school, our emphasis on job-ready preparation means the students encounter many of the same hazards present on a real-world job site. We want our students to be well protected from dangers, and view PPE, and students' basic uniform requirements, as an utmost priority to your student's education and strive to meet OSHA (Occupational Safety and Health Administration) requirements in all activities. It is not unlike other industries or activities where particular equipment or uniforms are required – i.e. Helmet and pads for football, Snorkel, regulator for scuba diving, breathing apparatus, and turnout coats for firefighters.

In addition to our uniform requirements, personal protective equipment is dependent on your student's chosen career path but may include items such as gloves, safety glasses and shoes, earplugs or muffs, hard hats, respirators, or coveralls, vests, and full body suits. At PTEC, we provide much of the PPE required, however, it is the student's responsibility to provide eye and ear protection, as well as their uniform items.

Our current policy is directed at mitigating the risks to your student, the standing policy of bringing PPE to class every day and wearing proper PTEC uniform will remain. However, if the student does not come to their shop class prepared with PPE (eye and ear protection) or proper PTEC uniform (belt, jeans over tongue of shoes with no frays or holes, PTEC shirt tucked in) ready, the student will then be required to purchase the missing equipment from the school. If students do not have cash on hand we will charge their account for the missing equipment. Cash or check is also acceptable; however, we will deduct it from your student's school account if needed.

As a school, our staff is dedicated to the safety of all students, this policy is being placed to ensure your students experience the unique opportunities available to them at PTEC without harm, and we respectfully ask that you adhere to this policy going forward.

Thank you for your understanding, and here is to an exciting and safe school year!



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