



School Policy 6 - Uniform

This policy was last reviewed by Governors on 3rd February 2016.

The Governors' Committee responsible for this is the Ethos and Pastoral Care Committee.

The person in the school who prepares the text of this policy for the Governors is the Headteacher.

It will next be reviewed in February 2019.

Introduction

Uniform is compulsory for all pupils in Years 7 to 11. Full school uniform is worn to and from school and on all school visits and occasions unless instructions are given to the contrary.

The current uniform code is set out in Appendix A and published on the school website, in the Staff Handbook and in the Information for New Parents.

Rationale

The purpose of the policy is to make explicit the principles behind the school's existing uniform code. In having a school uniform it is the Governors' intention:

1. to help give the pupils of the school a sense of identity and belonging;
2. to help create a culture of high expectations and high achievement within the school;
3. to ensure that the rules are clear and well understood, that pupils' appearance is smart and that they approach their learning with the right attitude, properly equipped and prepared;
4. to promote good relationships within the school: equality of opportunity for all pupils; social cohesion amongst pupils and protection from social pressure to dress in a particular way; mutual respect between staff and pupils;
5. to give the school a good profile within the local area and to support its Christian ethos.

Responsibilities

- The Governors set the policy and review it regularly and as needed.
- The Headteacher is responsible for the implementation of this policy and is supported in this by the Deputy Headteacher, Assistant Headteachers overseeing key stages, Heads of Year and Form Tutors and all staff as a part of their general responsibilities in the school.
- Duty staff check pupils' appearance as they arrive in and move around the school.
- Form Tutors check the appearance of their Tutees at Registration twice a day.
- Subject teachers insist on a high standard of uniform in their classes.
- Heads of Year communicate the expected standards and take action, as necessary, to ensure that these are adhered to and that parents and carers are also fully informed of this action. This does include sending a pupil home to change or correct an aspect of his/her appearance or uniform which does not conform to the uniform code.
- The Assistant Headteachers with pastoral oversight ensure consistency of policy and practice across year groups and support Heads of Year in their responsibility for this.
- The Deputy Headteacher writes to parents when changes are made to the uniform code.
- Pupils are expected to take their responsibility to wear school uniform seriously and to do so with dignity as members and representatives of the school community.

Principles

The offer of a place at the school is made on the understanding that parents will fully support the school policy in this matter. Parents are asked to encourage their children to respect their school uniform, to wear it with pride and to keep it in good condition.

The uniform is designed to be acceptable to students, parents and staff and to be suitable (in terms of safety and comfort) for the range of activities pupils enjoy at school. From time to time changes are made in consultation with the School Council, parents and staff.

The uniform list is published in the school prospectus, on the school website and in information sent out to new parents. Items of uniform are available from a local supplier, Hewitts, although only certain items have to be purchased there. Items are priced competitively and the overall cost of the school uniform is kept low. Through the Parents' Association all parents have access to second-hand uniform items at considerably reduced prices.

The rules relating to uniform and appearance were compiled having regard to:

- Health and safety issues: e.g. long hair to be tied back, no baggy clothes in science, technology, sensible shoes for progress around the school, risk of jewellery catching on equipment or causing injury in sport; the wearing of jewellery might also place a student at increased risk of bullying;
- Propriety: e.g. shirts must be tucked in and skirts be of a suitable length.
- Good communication between staff and students and between the students themselves. To this end, faces must be visible, i.e. not obscured by long hair, headscarves, or makeup.
- Security: e.g. easy identification of intruders

If a pupil is not adhering to the uniform policy, the school will in the first instance discreetly try to establish whether there are good reasons for it and take measures to address the problem. If there are no good reasons and the pupil persistently fails to observe the school uniform policy he or she will be refused entry to the school and only allowed back when the problem has been remedied.

Requests to vary the uniform to meet the needs of individual pupils, e.g. for medical or religious reasons, will be carefully considered. However, in adopting this policy the governors have taken all possible steps to ensure that it is fair and reasonable, does not offend human rights, is non-discriminatory and acceptable to the majority. It would not be practical or productive to vary the rules except in the most compelling of circumstances.

Monitoring, review and evaluation

Tutors monitor the standard of uniform within their tutor groups. Heads of Year oversee the use of uniform reports and detentions and contact parents, as required. The Pastoral Leadership Team has uniform as part of its responsibilities. Members of the Senior Leadership Team monitor uniform within the school as a whole, intervene where necessary to support other staff and ensure that the general standard of uniform is high. The Headteacher has the authority, if required, to send pupils in breach of the school's uniform code home to make the necessary changes to their appearance – see Appendix B: DCSF guidance on dealing with such a breach.

Governors monitor the effectiveness of the policy through their visits to the school and through the work of the Ethos and Pastoral Care Committee, which meets termly and reports after each meeting to the full Governing Body.

Appendix A – the uniform code

RULES

In particular:

- Blazers and ties are worn at all times and on the way to and from school. Pupils should obtain permission from their teacher before removing their blazer during a lesson.
- Shirts are tucked in.
- Shoes are black, traditional in appearance, made of leather, with sensible heels and not of a converse/trainer type.
- No denim
- No trainers
- Jewellery, except for a watch, is not permitted. Pupils who have pierced ears may wear only one small plain gold stud per ear in the ear lobe. Nose piercing and other body piercing is unacceptable.
- Make-up, acrylic nails or coloured nail varnish are not acceptable in school.
- Pupils and students faces must always be uncovered: there is a need for staff to see their faces in order to gauge engagement and reaction.
- No extreme haircuts are permitted. Hair should be of natural colour with no hair dye and no lines shaved into a pattern.
- All articles of clothing **must** be clearly marked with the pupil's name. Pupils may not borrow or lend clothing, particularly P.E. kit.
- No hats except for a plain woolly hat (small logo allowed), during winter months.
- Coats, scarves, gloves and hats should not be worn in the school buildings.
- Earphones should not be on display during the school day – otherwise these will be confiscated.
- Any appearance which would go against the ethos in a Christian school will be judged inappropriate.
- In the second half of the Summer Term a Summer Uniform code may apply.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

Girls

School blazer with school crest*
Blue blouse (optional short sleeves, reverse-neckline)*
House tie – clip on*
Grey skirt or Mid-grey trousers *
Blue V-neck pullover with school crest*
Or Blue Cardigan with school crest*
White or black socks/beige or black tights**
Black shoes with sensible low heel and not of a Converse/trainer type
(4cm heel maximum)
White science/technology apron*

Outdoor coat (light colour suggested for safety during winter months). Not denim

Boys

School blazer with school crest*
White shirt (long or short sleeves)
House tie – clip on*
Mid-grey trousers*
Blue V-neck pullover with school crest*
Grey, navy or black socks
Black shoes, not of a Converse/trainer type
White science/technology apron*

Outdoor coat (light colour suggested for safety during winter months). Not denim

Girls' Physical Education

Skirt, royal blue*
Sweatshirt with house badge*
White P.E. shirt with house badge*
White or black plimsolls for gymnastics (optional)
White sports socks
Trainers
Royal blue shorts*
Royal blue football socks*
Football shin pads

Boys' Physical Education

Football shirt in royal blue*
Sweatshirt with house badge*
Plain white shorts*
Royal blue football socks*
Football boots and shin pads
White PE shirt with house badge*
White or black plimsolls for gymnastics (optional)
White sports socks
Trainers
Gum shield
Cricket box for protection

***These items must only be purchased from our School Outfitters as they are specific style/s.**

** Please note that white socks should not be worn over black tights.

APPENDIX B – the Sixth Form Dress Code

The Sixth Form is a bridge between compulsory education and later study, research and employment. Many Sixth Formers will go on to professional or skilled jobs where there is a dress code which reflects the ethos and status of that company or organisation. The Sixth Form Dress Code similarly reflects the position of the students in the school as its senior members who dress professionally, ready for the working day. Sixth Formers work closely in a professional capacity with teachers and other staff, setting the standard for younger pupils and have to know how to dress with dignity and modesty. The student's face must always be uncovered: there is a need for staff to see the student's face in order to gauge engagement and reaction.

This code has been approved by Sixth Form students in consultation with Senior Leaders of the School.

In the Sixth Form we expect students to dress in an appropriate and professional manner and this includes the journey to and from school.

FEMALE DRESS CODE

Overall smart business dress
Smart tailored skirt - dark coloured (not shorter than 2 inches above knee)
Smart trousers (not skin tight)
Blouse
Smart shirt
Smart V-Neck/Cardigan
Knee length tailored shorts
Smart Shoes

Cannot be worn:

Trainers
Plimsolls, Converse or Vans
Hats
T-Shirts
Any type of jeans
Shorts
Low cut tops, strappy tops and tops that reveal midriff
Flip flops
Leggings
Mini Skirts

Also:

No coats, and hoodies with hoods up, to be worn in lessons
Expensive jewellery to be kept at home
No headphones on show whilst walking around school
No facial piercings except for earrings
No visible tattoos

MALE DRESS CODE

Overall smart business dress
Tie and shirt
Smart trousers – tailored
Optional V-Neck jumper/cardigan
Knee length tailored shorts
Smart Shoes

Cannot be worn:

Trainers
Plimsolls, Converse or Vans
Hats
T-Shirts
Any type of jeans
Shorts
Flip flops

Also:

No coats, and hoodies with hoods up, to be worn in lessons
Expensive jewellery to be kept at home
No headphones on show whilst walking around school
No facial piercings except for earrings
No visible tattoos

The school reserves the right to make the final judgement about the appropriateness of a student's dress or appearance, in relation to the standards we set for our community. Any student who is not suitably dressed will be asked to go home and change and will be given an unauthorised absence.