

# Uniform and Dress Code for Sixth Form

## Introduction

At BMS we believe that School uniform is important for the following reasons:

- It brings uniformity and equality among students.
- It fosters a sense of community.
- It helps create a positive learning environment.
- It encourages a sense of pride in appearance.
- It supports health and safety.

It is expected that all members of the school community, i.e. students, parents and staff, will work together to uphold the highest standards of uniform recognising it plays an important part in the whole school ethos.

## Aims

To lay out our approach to how the uniform should be worn, what is not acceptable and the implications if the policy is not followed.

To support all members of the school community in upholding expected standards of dress.

To ensure that inclusion, diversity and equality are at the heart of our policy and that, where necessary, reasonable variations can be made to support the rights of individuals with protected characteristics.

To ensure that in establishing a policy we do not discriminate unlawfully and are mindful of the risks of indirect discrimination, particularly with regard to religion and belief.

This policy has been created in consultation with the students and staff at BMS.

## Principles

In recognition of the Sixth Former's growing maturity and independence, our dress code is based upon business principles. We believe that a business dress code will promote fairness and equality for all in the Sixth Form as well as providing them with a more adult image. Additionally, we believe the dress code strikes a balance between some degree of individuality whilst recognising the importance of setting an example to the younger members of the school community.

## Dress Code

- A plain style/check smart business suit jacket with matching suit trousers, suit skirt or suit or co-ordinated dress with jacket. No very bright colours, leggings, jeans or chinos.
- A smart business shirt and tie, or blouse with collar.

- Skirts and dresses should be uniform in length (5cm above or below the knee) and may be fitted but not stretch material (such as bodycon) or anything considered to be partywear.
- A plain knitted jumper or cardigan under the jacket (no longer than the jacket) can be worn in the winter months and should be a plain style.
- Smart black/brown business shoes. Due to the nature of our site and for safety reasons, high heels and stilettos are not permitted. Any heels should be no more than 3cm in height and toes should be covered. Trainers are not permitted.

## **Coats**

A plain dark waterproof coat (colouring for road safety is permitted) can be worn over the blazer on the way to and from school. Coats should not be worn in school during the day.

## **Hair and Makeup**

Hair should be natural in colour and as a rule cuts should ensure hair is of a consistent length with no obvious differences. No tramlines or patterns should be shaved into hair or eyebrows and students should be clean shaven. Brightly coloured dyed hair is not permitted.

If parents are unsure if a particular hairstyle will be permitted, contact should be made with the school prior to restyling taking place. Long hair will need to be tied back for practical lessons.

Make up, if worn, should be applied subtly without extreme colour. Nails should be kept at an appropriate length. Nail varnish is permitted. False nails are not permitted for health and safety reasons.

## **Jewellery** (Permitted items must be removed for Games.)

A watch

No more than three small stud earrings in each ear

One simple necklace and bracelet

No more than one plain ring on each hand

All other piercings, including stretchers and plastic retainers are not permitted on health and safety grounds.

We would advise that all valuable items and/or those with sentimental value are left at home.

## **Religious dress**

Religious headwear should be no longer than shoulder length and should be of a plain colour. Requests for other religious dress not covered in this policy should be made to the Director of Sixth Form.

## **Compliance**

Where a student's uniform does not conform with this policy, they may be asked to remove the item(s) concerned and they should comply with this reasonable request. Items which do not form part of the school's uniform policy will be confiscated and placed at main reception for collection. The school cannot be held responsible for confiscated items.

Where a student is non-compliant, the situation will be managed in line with the School Behaviour Policy and one or more of the following sanctions may be used:

- Parents/carers contacted and if required the student may be sent home to adapt their appearance or asked to bring the appropriate items into school.
- If students forget an item of uniform, they will be supplied with items of loan uniform to wear for the day.
- For persistent non-compliance, the Behaviour Policy will be applied.

**Mr J White**  
**Director of Sixth Form**

**Mr A Whomsley**  
**Senior Deputy Head**

**July 2022**  
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