

For this we stand:
to search for truth;
to live in love;
to grow together.



"Speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is Jesus Christ"

Ephesians 4

BISHOP WORDSWORTH'S SCHOOL UNIFORM POLICY

Definition: 'Is to', 'are to' and 'must' are obligatory. 'Should' is not obligatory but is good practice and is to be adhered to unless non-compliance can be justified.

'Parent(s)' includes guardian(s) or any person who has parental responsibility for the student, or who has care of the student.

AIMS

1. This policy seeks to:
 - a. Establish clear and consistent expectations regarding uniform and appearance for all students.
 - b. Ensure that uniform requirements are reasonable, practical and represent good value for families.
 - c. Ensure that uniform requirements promote a sense of belonging and common identity among all students regardless of background. Consistent and prescribed uniform seeks to reduce social pressure relating to clothing choice, support high standards of conduct, and contribute positively to the school's ethos.

SCOPE

2. This policy applies to all students enrolled at the School including sixth form students.

EQUALITY AND INCLUSION

3. The School is committed to maintaining consistent expectations regarding uniform and appearance and recognises its duty to implement this policy fairly and in accordance with equality legislation. Accordingly, the School will consider requests for reasonable adjustments where these are required because of a pupil's disability, medical condition, sensory need, religious observance or other protected characteristic.
4. Adaptations to footwear, clothing, hair, or other aspects of uniform can be made where there is a legitimate need. Requests should normally be made by a parent to the Head of Year. Adjustments will be considered on an individual basis, taking account of the pupil's needs, the School's uniform requirements, health and safety considerations, and the wider interests of the school community.

AFFORDABILITY

5. In determining uniform requirements, the School seeks to balance affordability, practicality, safety, smart appearance and school identity. Branded items are minimal and generic alternatives are permitted wherever appropriate. Most uniform items are readily available from a variety of high-street clothing stores and are limited to common colours without specific patterns or textures.
6. BWS partners with Direct Clothing who sell all BWS branded uniform and a range of non-branded items including PE/Games kit. In addition Direct Clothing sell a number of non-essential branded items including school scarf, hat, PE items, water bottles and kit bags.
7. The School recognises the financial pressures on parents and is supported in its commitment to supporting parents by the BWSPA who operate a second-hand uniform shop. Details for this are published on the School website and shared periodically in parent mail.
8. The School will periodically review its uniform requirements to ensure they continue to represent good value for families and ensure that recommended suppliers, where given are commercially competitive. A maximum of notice will be given for any required changes and wherever possible changes will only be made once an academic year.
9. Following statutory limits for compulsory branded items of uniform and PE kit, the School has limited branded items to 4 in the main school and sixth form. The items are as follows:

Years 7-11	Sixth Form
Navy blue blazer with School crest.	School tie or pin badge worn on the lapel
School tie in house colours	
Navy/white reversible rugby shirt with the School crest*	
Navy/white PE polo top with the School crest*	

*PE Kit

ENFORCEMENT

10. Uniform expectations are set out in the Student Code of Conduct in language accessible to pupils. The School seeks the views of pupils on matters relating to uniform through the School Council as a consultation mechanism, and will take those views into account when reviewing uniform arrangements.
11. The School will work with pupils and parents to resolve genuine difficulties relating to uniform, including where these arise from affordability, availability or individual circumstances. Where a pupil is unwilling to comply with reasonable uniform expectations, appropriate sanctions may be applied in accordance with the Behaviour Policy.

RESPONSIBILITIES

12. **Students** are expected to wear the correct uniform at all times, except where the School has expressly authorised an alternative arrangement such as on a 'non-uniform day' in aid of charitable causes. This expectation applies whilst:
 - a. on the School site;
 - b. travelling to and from School;
 - c. participating in educational visits, fixtures, events or other activities where they are representing the School. Some EV's may permit the wearing of Games or PE uniform but all trips should be assumed to be regular uniform unless specific provisions are made in the trip letter.
13. Students seeking an adjustment to the uniform requirements should discuss this with their Head of Year in the first instance.
14. **Parents** are expected to ensure that pupils attend School in the correct uniform and with the required PE and Games kit. Uniform should be clean, clearly named and maintained in a suitable condition.
 - a. Parents wishing to request an adjustment to the School's uniform requirements should contact the relevant Head of Year. Requests will be considered in accordance with this policy.
 - b. Concerns regarding the operation of this policy should be raised promptly with the School. Where concerns cannot be resolved informally, they may be pursued in accordance with the School's Complaints Policy.
15. All **staff** are responsible for promoting and maintaining high standards of dress and appearance. Uniform concerns should normally be addressed promptly and proportionately, with support provided where difficulties arise.

EXPECTATIONS FOR SCHOOL UNIFORM (YEARS 7 – 11)

16. Examples, including photographs, of acceptable uniform are displayed prominently on the School website.
17. Regular uniform requirements are as follows:
 - a. Navy blue blazer with School crest.
 - b. Plain grey or black smart, suit-style trousers which must conform to the School's standard of smartness: jeans and corduroys are not allowed.
 - c. Plain white, light grey or light blue shirt. Shirts must be tucked in and top buttons done up. Any T-shirt or vest that is worn beneath a shirt must not have any visible pattern or logo.
 - d. School tie in house colours (note that special ties are awarded for various achievements).
 - e. V-neck pullovers, if worn, must be plain grey or navy.
 - f. In Year 11 only, students have the option of wearing a navy plain-knit quarter-zip jumper without a logo.
 - g. Plain black or dark brown polishable shoes (no canvas sections) of a conventional shape and style: trainers and related styles are not allowed.

- h. Black or grey socks. White or vivid coloured socks are not acceptable.
 - i. Hair must be neat and tidy and of natural colour. Hair longer than collar length must be tied back neatly.
 - j. Small, plain metal stud earrings may be worn. No neck jewellery, except a small religious item worn under the collar
 - k. Any facial hair must be tidy
 - l. No make-up is permitted
 - m. In cold or wet weather, topcoats, in addition to a blazer, are permitted. Coats with prominent logos or of unconventional colours and styles are not allowed. Coats should be removed while indoors.
 - n. 'Hoodies', including BWS branded ones from sport, educational visits or other, are unacceptable as part of regular uniform.
18. **Games & PE:** On days with timetabled PE/Games lessons students may arrive in kit. This does not apply for extracurricular or after-school sport.
19. **Games** uniform requirements are as follows:
- a. Navy/white reversible rugby shirt with the School crest
 - b. Navy rugby shorts with the School crest or plain
 - c. Navy/white hooped rugby socks or plain navy rugby socks
 - d. Rugby / football boots (rugby or football boots can be worn for both sports)
 - e. Navy tracksuit top and bottoms with the School crest or plain*
 - f. A small kit bag*
 - g. Navy base shorts (optional)*
 - h. Navy base leggings (optional)*
 - i. Any earrings or neck jewellery must be removed for requirements of health and safety.
- * Also PE uniform
20. **PE** uniform requirements are as follows:
- a. Navy/white PE polo top with the School crest
 - b. Navy/white PE shorts with the School crest or plain
 - c. Plain white short PE socks
 - d. Two pairs of training shoes will be required - one suitable for gymnasium activities in the Sports Hall and the other to be used for outdoor activities such as running.
 - e. Navy tracksuit top and bottoms with the School crest or plain*
 - f. A small kit bag*
 - g. Navy base shorts (optional)*
 - h. Navy base leggings (optional)*
 - i. Any earrings or neck jewellery must be removed for requirements of health and safety.
- * Also games uniform

EXPECTATIONS FOR SCHOOL UNIFORM (SIXTH FORM)

21. Examples, including photographs, of acceptable uniform are displayed prominently on the School website.

22. Regular uniform requirements are as follows:

- a. A suit (matching jacket and skirt, dress or trousers) or a formal jacket / blazer, shirt and/or blouse, and tailored trousers or skirt or dress.
- b. Shirt with a standard collar suitable for wearing a tie.
- c. Blouse of other top that is sleeved and covers the shoulders.
- d. All tops (shirts and blouses) should be light in colour and must not have prominent patterning or logos. Tops must provide appropriate coverage of the torso and midriff, cropped tops are not permitted, nor are sleeveless tops.
- e. Boys: BWS Sixth form or other BWS tie.
- f. Girls: Either a BWS sixth form tie, or BWS pin badge on the lapel.
- g. Plain black or dark brown polishable shoes (no canvas sections) of a conventional shape and style: trainers and related styles are not allowed.
- h. Any skirts must be of a knee length or below. Dresses must be of a comparable standard of formality to other permitted Sixth Form attire and be of a knee length or below.
- i. Any heels should be low.
- j. Any tights should be plain, neutral coloured or dark and not laddered.
- k. All jewellery and make-up must be discreet. No bold colours or statements. A single discreet nose stud may be worn; no other facial piercings are permitted.
- l. Hair must be tidy and a natural colour. Hair below the collar can be down but must be tied back on request.
- m. Any facial hair must be neat and tidy.
- n. No tattoos for anyone under the age of 18. Pupils over 18 years old must not have visible tattoos.
- o. In cold weather, a V-neck sweater or waistcoat or cardigan may be worn under the suit jacket / blazer. Suit jacket / blazer must continue to be worn.
- p. Coats can be worn on top of blazers, but must not be bold coloured or have prominent logos.
- q. Clothing should be professional, business-like and appropriate for a working environment. The School reserves the right to determine whether an item of clothing or appearance is consistent with the standards and ethos expected of Sixth Form students.

23. **Games** uniform requirements are as follows:

- a. All games kit must be navy or white except for leggings (which may be black).

- b. Kit does not need to be BWS branded but must be in school colours correctly fitting and not have an oversized logo.
- c. Boys: Navy or white t-shirt and shorts.
- d. Girls: Navy or white t-shirt and either black or navy leggings, navy shorts or a navy skirt.
- e. Training shoes suitable to activity.
- f. Kit lists for specific sports may be additional to the requirements given above.
- g. Any earrings or neck jewellery must be removed for requirements of health and safety.
- h. All kit worn should be correctly fitting. Tops must provide appropriate coverage of the torso and midriff, cropped tops are not permitted, nor are sleeveless tops.

24. **ID and Lanyards:** All sixth form students are required to wear a BWS specific ID badge on a neck-worn lanyard. Lanyards should be visible at all times, and the School will provide an initial lanyard and ID badge. If lost or broken, students must purchase a new lanyard from the school reception

EXTRACURRICULARS

- 25. Some extracurricular activities, such as sport, may have associated clothing or equipment requirements. In determining recommended suppliers and products, the School will have regard to the same principles of affordability, practicality and value for money that underpin this policy, whilst recognising that specialist activities may require particular products or suppliers. All third party suppliers are linked to on the School Website.
- 26. Participation in extracurricular activities can ordinarily take place using the regular School uniform, PE kit or Games kit, as appropriate to the activity. Any additional requirements will be communicated to pupils and parents in advance
- 27. Clothing associated with extracurricular activities, including Canterbury sportswear, does not form part of the School's regular uniform, PE uniform or Games uniform. Such items must not be worn during the normal school day, including lessons, tutor periods, assemblies and other timetabled activities.

SUMMER UNIFORM

- 28. During periods of extended hot weather the Summer Uniform rules permit students to remove their blazer while on School grounds. Blazers must still be worn during travel to and from school. Ties must still be worn at all times unless explicit permission is given by a supervising member of staff.
- 29. The operation and duration of Summer Uniform will be determined by the Head and may be varied according to prevailing weather conditions and other relevant circumstances.

LOST PROPERTY

- 30. The School will make reasonable efforts to ensure that any lost property can be returned but all items of uniform property must be clearly named. Uniform without

identification will be kept at lost property until the end of the half-term and then donated to the second-hand uniform shop unless reclaimed.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

31. Governors will monitor the implementation of this policy through reports provided by senior leaders as appropriate. Such reports may include information regarding compliance with the School's uniform requirements, the operation of reasonable adjustments, and any significant issues arising from the application of the policy.
32. This policy will be reviewed annually by the Governors' Admissions, Property, Health & Safety Committee, or sooner where changes in legislation, statutory guidance or School practice make this necessary. This Policy was first adopted on the 22nd June 2026.

22 nd June 2026	Initial policy adopted
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