



9th November 2022

Uniform Standards - Year 11

Dear Parent/Carer,

You may have noticed the Year 11 team have tried to follow up on individual issues of uniform.

This however is a blanket letter to all parents/carers.

Of course you and your Year 11 child will be focused on achievement and GCSEs, but we cannot and will not let uniform standards drop completely in the remaining 6 months.

Therefore I have copied below the expected standards as sent out in the summer.

I ask that you share these with your child as I will be asking the Year 11 team to follow up on where these standards are not met as with every other year group.

I draw your attention to nails and piercings in particular.

A single colour of nail varnish is tolerable. However nail extensions are NOT allowed. This is a Health and Safety issue.

Likewise piercings are not acceptable and also a Health and Safety issue, particularly those where there are hoops or rings and if these are not dealt with students will have to be isolated. The school offers to provide a clear retainer.

It is important to remember that whilst these issues may seem trivial to individual students, these same students are the role models to our younger years and therefore if we allow standards to drop in Year 11, the same will follow across the school.

Yours sincerely

Mr King
Assistant Headteacher in charge of Behaviour and Standards

This is a copy of a letter I sent out in August 2022:

Secondary School Uniform Year 7-11

Item	Compulsory of Optional	Purchase From
Blazer	Compulsory	SWI
Black trousers-non denim or legging	<i>Either trousers or pleated skirt are compulsory</i>	Any retailer
Pleated knee length skirt		Any retailer
Campion tie	Compulsory	SWI
White formal shirt	Compulsory	Any retailer
Black polishable shoes	Compulsory (No boots, trainers or other forms of footwear are allowed)	Any retailer



Other Uniform Expectations

Jewellery

A single ring and one pair of small, plain stud or sleeper size earrings and a watch are the only items allowed. All Jewellery must be removed for PE activities and is brought into school entirely at the student's own risk. **Students must not wear multiple rings, ear piercings, hoop style earrings or jewellery in the upper ear, ear cartilage, nose, tongue or gum. These items are banned and will be confiscated.**

If you do decide to allow your child to have additional piercings, please ensure that they are removed for school. This will be strictly enforced and students not correctly attired for lessons may be withdrawn from mainstream lessons until the issue has been fully resolved.

Hairstyles

Students are expected to have moderate hairstyles, avoiding extremes. A definitive list of acceptable and unacceptable hairstyles is impractical but our guiding principle will relate to whether or not the hairstyle is appropriate for a professional, working environment.

Make Up

Discreet make-up only is allowed. In practical terms this means no bright lipstick, eye shadow, eye liner, false eyelashes or false nails.

Nails

False nails can represent a health and safety risk in physical education lessons and are not appropriate for school. It is far easier to maintain the cleanliness of short, natural nails than longer acrylic or varnished ones. **Clear or subtle nail varnish is allowed.**

Frequently Asked Questions Regarding Uniform

What happens if my child comes to school without school shoes?

If there is a genuine reason for your child not wearing school shoes we ask that you inform their Head of Year either by email, with a hand written note or by telephone before your child arrives at school on that day. In cases where a genuine reason exists students will be provided with a non-uniform pass for a limited duration of 1 day. If no reason is provided your child will be required to wear a pair of black plimsolls for the day.

Why can't my child wear clothes, jewellery or make-up to express their personality and individuality?

School is a formal setting (just like a place of work or business) where students should be treated equally and have equal access to attention and support from staff. We do not want to encourage an environment where students are competing in terms of their appearance or how "fashionable" they look. Students very often claim that their appearance sets them apart from others and is an expression of individuality when actually they are simply conforming to the expectations of their peer group.

Why can't my child wear piercings/nail extensions/varnish when I have been told that other children do?

Students often use this as their first defence with parents/carers and members of staff. Invariably, the truth is that everyone else is not being allowed to break the rules that also apply to your child. Where there are students wearing piercings/nail varnish/extensions then they will also be dealt with. However, the school is not at liberty to discuss the sanctions and issues regarding another child with you or your child. In the same way, we will not discuss issues to do with your child with others.

Why can't my child have nail extensions?

As previously stated, long nail extensions pose a risk when a student is engaged in physical activity or taking part in specific subjects within the curriculum. If one is ripped off or brushes another student, this can result in painful cuts and rips to the skin. In addition, the school does not want to encourage an environment where such "additions" to appearances are taken as the norm.