



School Uniform Policy

Lead Senior Leader: Senior Deputy Headteacher

Approved: October 2023

Next Review: October 2024

Governor Review: PDW Committee

However, this policy is under continuous review by the Senior Leadership Team and Governors



1. Introduction

It is the opinion of Sir William Borlase's Grammar School that a school uniform has an important role to play in:

- promoting the ethos of a school
- providing a sense of belonging and identity
- setting an appropriate tone for education

Working in partnership with governors, parents and students, the school has agreed a uniform for students in Years 7-11 and a dress code for students in the 6th form.

Sir William Borlase's Grammar School notes and supports the following guidance issued by the Department for Education in November 2021:

“By creating a common identity amongst all pupils, regardless of background, a school uniform can act as a social leveller. It can reduce bullying and peer pressure to wear the latest fashions or other expensive clothes. If, however, the uniform is too expensive it can place an unreasonable burden on families. Furthermore, if a distinction can be made between those who can afford it and those who cannot, this can reduce the benefits of a uniform and has the potential to negatively impact attendance, access and participation, and lead to bullying.”

2. Policy Aims

The aims of the school's Uniform Policy and 6th Form Dress code are as follows:

- set out a clear standard with regards to school uniform and dress code
- establish the school's position with regards to the cost of school uniform, ensuring that it represents value for money and does not act as a barrier to applying to the school
- ensure that the school is compliant with the 2010 Equalities Act and the November 2021 Statutory Guidance on the cost of school uniforms

3. School Uniform

The school uniform applies to students in Years 7-11.

Appearance

The school does not permit the following:

- All types of headgear except cycle helmet or a plain black “beanie” for wear to and from school in inclement weather
- Denim or leather type clothing
- Sweatshirts, hooded or zipped tops



- Scarf – other than the Borlase school or plain black scarf
- Make-up
- All types of jewellery (with the exception of simple unadorned earstuds, one per lobe) including rings, nose-studs, friendship bracelets, ankle bands, etc. A single charity band is permitted
- Coloured T-shirts worn underneath white shirts
- Belts wider than 3cm and decorative buckles
- No extreme haircuts
- Hairbands should be plain red, black or white

General School Uniform

(branded items purchased from our uniform supplier, Hawkinsport, are marked with an asterisk *)

Blazer	Black with school badge on breast pocket *
Skirt/Trousers	Skirt: Knee length, school skirt with school badge on the front * or trousers to be tailored, mid grey, full length and not tight fitting.
Shirt	White
Tie	Red with House colours *
Shoes	Black leather/vegan faux leather equivalent - low heeled, no open toes, no trainers
Socks or tights	Dark coloured socks with trousers and black opaque tights 30+ denier with skirts. Socks with skirts in the summer term only.
Pullover	Plain black V-necked with school logo * or plain black, fine knit, V-necked
Belt	Optional: dark grey or black
Outdoor Wear	Plain coat or anorak (no logos or external labels)
School Scarf	Optional : available from Hawkinsport, or plain black scarf
Bookbag	Borlase bookbag for use in the school day



PE Kit

Indoor PE Kit	White Borlase House T-Shirt *
	Plain black shorts
	White socks
	Clean trainers
Outdoor Games Kit	Borlase reversible rugby shirt * White Borlase t-shirt (as above) for the summer term or Borlase polo shirt *
	Black Shorts (Cotton for rugby) or skort
	Black Football/Hockey socks. White socks for the summer term
	Plain black or Borlase tracksuit bottoms for Autumn and Spring term only
	Black Borlase quarter-zip sweatshirt or fleece *
	Outdoor trainers and rugby/football boots (studs or moulded)
	Shin pads and gum shield
Optional items	Holdall - Black with school logo and initials to fit in school locker *
	Black Borlase fleece and waterproof jacket *

4. Sixth Form Dress Code

The School Uniform and Sixth Form Dress Code is a key part of the Borlase identity. Our Sixth Form Dress Code reflects the leadership role our senior students play in the school while also proudly identifying them as part of the Borlase cohesive community. Therefore there is some freedom of choice within a clear set of corporate guidelines. Our Sixth Form has responsibility for leading the way in setting high standards for the school in all aspects of school life; sixth form dress is an important part of this responsibility.

The school does **not** permit the following:

- Denim or leather type clothing
- Sweatshirts, hooded or zipped tops
- Scarf – other than the Borlase school or plain black scarf
- Coloured T-shirts worn underneath white shirts
- Belts wider than 3cm and decorative buckles



- No extreme haircuts and hair must be of a natural colour
- Hairbands should be plain red, black or white
- Make-up should be discreet

Permitted Sixth Form attire

(branded items purchased from our uniform supplier, Hawkinsport, are marked with an asterisk *)

Trouser/skirt/dress-suit	A black/dark grey/navy suit consisting of tailored jacket and full-length tailored trousers or tailored jacket and tailored skirt/shift dress. Three piece suits are permitted with a matching waistcoat with trousers or skirts (tailored suits are matching pieces, not separate items of different fabrics). Skirt/dresses must be no more than 2 inches above the knee.
Shirt	A white shirt or blouse with collar and sleeves.
Tie	Sixth-form school ties in House colours are purchased from Hawkinsport online. They are worn by boys; however all 6th formers are welcome to wear them. * https://www.hawkinsport.co.uk/product/sir-william-borlase-6th-form-ties
Shoes	Black, smart shoes. No trainers, boots or canvas shoes.
Tights and socks	Dark socks with trousers; black, opaque tights 30 denier + with skirts (recommended through Autumn and Winter Terms)
Jumpers/cardigans	A fine-knit black/navy/dark grey v-necked jumper, or cardigan can be worn under a jacket, but not instead of a jacket. Round neck jumpers, sweatshirts, hoodies or heavy-knits are not permitted.
Outdoor coats	A plain, dark coat may be worn over the jacket.
Make-up	This should be discreet
Jewellery	A single pair of ear-rings, studs or droppers of up to 2 inches - to be removed for sport/dance or other situations where requested.
Shaving	Students must be clean shaven at all times unless exempt on religious or medical grounds
Head Wear	Religious head wear or head wear required on medical grounds.
Sports Kit	Specific sixth-form PE kit is available at Hawkinsport. It is possible to order a PE kit top that has Borlase Sport on the back of the item, or choose to have a specific sport e.g. Borlase Rowing/Hockey/Netball/Rugby/Football https://www.hawkinsport.co.uk/product/sir-william-borlase-6th-form-t-shirt https://www.hawkinsport.co.uk/product/sir-william-borlase-6th-form-mid-layer



	Please wear SWBGS black leggings or branded leggings - provided they are BLACK and appropriate fit (e.g. no fitness style leggings, missing panels showing skin or large branding). Students can wear kit that are from previous years, e.g. Borlase Hockey / Rugby tops.
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5. Enforcement of the Uniform Policy and Dress Code

- It is the responsibility of parents to ensure that students come to school in the correct uniform (see the Home School Agreement).
- Form tutors are responsible for monitoring uniform / dress code at the start of the school day and all staff have a responsibility for ensuring that students are correctly dressed in lessons and elsewhere on the school site.
- A student wearing clothing that does not comply with the uniform policy or dress code will be informed that their clothing is non compliant and will be asked to correct their uniform.
- In the event of repeated uniform / dress code infringements, parents will be contacted and the student will risk being sent home or other sanctions being applied, according to the school's behaviour management policy. In the case of non-compliant clothing, jewellery and other accessories, the student will be asked to remove the item, which may be confiscated.
- The uniform policy and dress code apply to students taking part in school-related activities within and beyond timetabled lessons, on and off the school site, for example during educational visits, unless otherwise stated.
- The Headteacher is the final arbiter in all matters of uniform and dress.

6. Cost of uniform

- We want to ensure that the cost of uniform does not deter any family from sending their child to Borlase, nor lead to students feeling socially excluded or unable to afford other necessities.
- We have worked with our uniform suppliers, Hawkinsport, to ensure that uniform is affordable and that branded items are kept to a minimum. As our contract with Hawkinsport is renegotiated ahead of the 2023-24 academic year, we plan to make changes to further reduce the cost of uniform.
- The Friends of Sir William Borlase's Grammar School, in conjunction with senior students working towards their Gold DofE Award, also run a second-hand uniform shop that holds a comprehensive range of stock and affordable prices.
- Parents who are unable to provide their child with the required items of school uniform should contact the school Business Manager. Such approaches will be handled with discretion and sensitivity.



7. Review

- The school keeps its uniform policy under regular review, particularly taking into account value for money and student feedback.

