

Uniform Policy



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The Blue Coat School Basingstoke - Uniform Policy

Our uniform policy which contains our expectations of all elements of personal presentation, including hair and make-up, has been constructed in consultation with students, parents and staff.

It is school policy that all students wear the correct uniform when attending school, as well as for some school organised events.

The uniform policy should be read alongside the published school behaviour policy.

Aims

We place importance and value on our school uniform, both as a mark of pride in the school as well as a positive identification with the school community. In addition, a clear uniform policy can avoid conflict at home about what to wear. Experience demonstrates that when students are smartly presented, this will positively influence their attitude in school, setting the tone for learning and progress.

Therefore, through our uniform policy we aim to:

- Encourage pride in the school and support high quality teaching and learning
- Enable students to be comfortable, safe and secure
- Clearly identify students inside and outside the school
- Ensure that no student feels excluded because of different social, religious and ethnic backgrounds
- Encourage a sense of equality and cohesion, as well as esprit de corps
- Protect students from social pressures to dress in a particular way
- Promote a sense of cohesion and belonging within the school community

Expectations

All students are expected to wear the correct school uniform at all times during the school day. This includes to and from school, as well as during some school organised events. We expect all students to wear the uniform with pride and to conduct themselves appropriately when representing the school. This also applies when students are off-site and in the school community (e.g. before and after school hours).

We expect all students, supported by their parents/carers, to take personal responsibility for the presentation of their uniform and to ensure their uniform is worn correctly and consistently.

Parents should contact their child's tutor if there are any personal circumstances affecting their child wearing the correct uniform, in order to make a swift resolution. If a note is provided, we would expect parents to notify the school of the date that their child will be expected to be back in full uniform. We would expect all uniform issues to be resolved by the following school week. If parents are unable to make the necessary changes (e.g. purchase a new item of school uniform) within the acceptable time frame, parents should contact their child's Head of Year to express this concern. If parents are unable to afford new items of uniform within the acceptable time frame, the school may agree to pay for these on the proviso that the school will be reimbursed by the

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parents when they are able to do so – in such circumstances a suitable re-payment plan would be agreed.

Supplies / Cost of Uniform

We want to ensure that the cost of uniform does not deter any family from applying for a school place for their child, nor leads to them feeling socially excluded or unable to afford parts of the uniform. The uniform is reviewed regularly to ensure that good quality clothing is provided at an affordable price which best suits the needs of all students. If there are any changes to the supplier of school uniform, parents and guardians will be notified in due course and with sufficient time to reasonably implement any changes.

Application of the Uniform Policy

It is the responsibility of parents to ensure that their child attends school wearing correct uniform. Although all staff have a responsibility for monitoring that students are correctly dressed in class and elsewhere on the school site, the main responsibility will lie with the tutor. Appendix A, B and C detail the school's expectations for uniform items and appearance.

Students not conforming to the School Uniform Policy

A student wearing non-uniform clothing can expect to be challenged in school. Parents are expected to provide a note explaining incorrect uniform on the day (or in advance of the day) that the infringement occurs. If a note (or other similar contact) is received from parents/guardians, a temporary uniform permit may be issued for a maximum duration of 1 school week. The school reserves the right to sanction students who repeatedly provide retrospective notes to explain incorrect uniform.

If a student fails to comply with the expectations of the uniform policy is likely that the matter will be managed in the following way:

- Incorrect uniform without note (e.g. no tie, trainers, wrong coloured socks) are *likely* to be issued with an immediate After School Reflection (please refer to the school's behaviour policy for details of After School Reflections).
- Hoodies – a student will be asked and expected to remove the hoodie. The member of staff will confiscate the hoodie and place in reception, where it will be returned to the student at the end of the school day. However, staff are within their rights to withhold the item of clothing and return it only to a parent (as per the mobile phone rule) if the student *repeatedly wears the hoodie to school*.
- Fake nails – students will be asked to remove and shorten within a set time outside of school time. Failure to remove/shorten the nails in a timely manner *may* lead to a removal from timetabled lessons with their Tutor/HOY/SLT link until the issue is resolved. School sanctions *may* also be applied if students repeatedly wear fake nails to school.
- Jeans/skin-tight trousers/leggings/excessively short skirts – students will not be allowed to attend lessons when wearing such items. Parents will be contacted immediately and asked to bring appropriate school trousers/skirt to the school for the student to wear. Students will not return to normal lessons until appropriate trousers / skirt have been provided.

Jewellery – students will be asked to remove the item, which in some cases may result in these items being confiscated. The school reserves the right to return confiscated items to parents only, and not students. In addition, students and parents should be aware that

jewellery is brought to school at the students' own risk. The school takes no responsibility for any item of jewellery that contravenes the school's uniform policy and is subsequently lost on school site.

- Failure to attend PE lessons without the required uniform/kit will lead to the behaviour escalation process to be implemented.

Students who repeatedly fail to wear their school uniform appropriately, without a valid reason may be placed on a uniform report. This is with an aim to support and monitor correct uniform expectations. Students will be sanctioned for repeated failure to adhere to the uniform expectations. Whilst on report, the student will be assessed on:

- Ensuring their shirt is tucked in
- Ensuring their top button is done up (where applicable)
- Ensuring their tie is a reasonable length
- Ensuring skirts are not rolled up.
- Ensuring trousers are worn appropriately
- Ensuring socks are the correct colour
- Ensuring make up is not excessive and is in line with the make-up allowances suggested in the appendices below
- Ensuring jewellery, other than that detailed in the appendices below, is not worn in school.

From September 2025, all new Year 7 students will be expected to wear the New TBCS Stripe tie and a TBCS Blazer.

Students in Years 8-11 (September 2025) can continue wearing the TBCS sweatshirt and TBCS Teal tie as expected.

All students in year 8-11 have the choice to purchase and wear the new TBCS Stripe tie and Blazer from September 2025.

Subject to the final appeal process, the Headteacher is normally the final arbiter in all matters of uniform and dress.

The Blue Coat School may make mid-year changes as appropriate and with sufficient notice to parents/carers.

Guidance on appropriate uniform is found in the appendices below:

Appendix A – list of required and optional uniform for all students

*Can only be purchased from Skoolkit

Item of uniform	Available to be purchased from Skoolkit	Guidance / Description		Items / uniform variations
Tie	Available from Skoolkit	(Year 7 2025) Required item New TBCS Striped tie.	Years 8-11 (September 2025) Required item TBCS Teal Tie.	No other tie is permitted to be worn (unless a prefect, who may wear the prefect tie). Revere Neck Blouse – Tie Not compulsory (Year 8-11 September 2025 Only)
Shoes	Not available	Required item Plain black traditional leather style shoes suitable for school use Maximum heel height 1" / 2.5cm *Shoes do not need to be made from real leather		The items below are not permitted Boots Trainers Stiletto shoes Platform soles Backless shoes Plimsolls Dolly shoes Crocs / flip flops Branded or Marked Shoes Different colours other than plain black
Shirt	Available	Required item Plain white short or long-sleeved button through school shirt – tie compulsory		No other colour shirt is permitted to be worn. Years 8-11 September 2025 Only Plain white short or long-sleeved revere neck blouse – tie not compulsory
Trousers	Available	Required item (or skirt) Plain black		No other colour is permitted. No leggings, jeans, cargo trousers etc. Trousers should be worn appropriately at waist or hip level, ensuring that no undergarments (e.g., underwear) are exposed.
*Tailored 'summer' shorts	Available	Plain tailored, professional looking shorts Optional		These must be purchased from Skoolkit. No other shorts are permitted.
Skirts	Available	Required item (or trousers) Pleated Charleston style skirt - Navy TBCS recommends Skoolkit as the supplier of this item However, the Charleston style skirt can also be found in Next and M&S. Next Code: 123-512 M&S Code: T760197		No other colour is permitted. Skirts should be consistently worn at approximately knee length. No belts are permitted. Skirts should not be rolled at the waist

*School sweatshirt	Available	(Year 7 2025) Not a compulsory item	Year 8-11 (September 2025) Required item if not wearing TBCS Blazer. TBCS V neck, navy (unisex)	No other jumper other than the TBCS Jumper (Yr. 8 2025) or Aldworth School jumper (Y9-Y11 2025 only) is permitted to be worn. No sweatshirts or cardigans are permitted. No hoodies are permitted. Sweatshirt must not be tied up
Socks	Not available	Required item (or tights) Plain black, navy blue		No other colours are permitted. No knee-high socks.
Tights	Not available	Required item (or socks) Plain black or Navy		No other colours are permitted. No patterns.
T-Shirts / Undershirts	Not available	A plain white vest or T-shirt may be worn under the school shirt for extra warmth but must not be visible Optional		No other colour is permitted. No visible T-shirts. No patterned or logos on T-shirts are permitted.
Coat	Not available	NA		Hoodies, denim or leather jackets are not permitted High visibility jackets or other similar garments (e.g. reflective bands, etc) are allowed to be worn by cyclists and pedestrians on the way to school for safety. These should be worn over the top of other garments but should be removed on entry to school and kept in students' bags/lockers.
Hats	Not available	NA		No caps or ski hats. Exceptions to be made to the caps may be made in extreme heat where sun burn is a concern, through discussion with the Headteacher, SLT or the relevant Head of Year
Scarf	Not available	Plain black scarf - Optional		No other colour is permitted to be worn in school. No logos or designs permitted.
Belts	Not available	Plain black - Optional		No branded belts are allowed

Appendix B – list of required and optional PE uniform for all students.

*Can only be purchased from Skoolkit

Item of uniform	Available to be purchased from Skoolkit	Guidance / uniform variations not permitted
TBCS or Aldworth (Y9-Y11 only) PE Polo Shirt	Available	REQUIRED ITEM No other polo shirt is permitted.
TBCS or Aldworth (Y9-Y11 only) PE Shorts	Available	REQUIRED ITEM No other shorts are permitted
TBCS or Aldworth (Y9-Y11 only) PE Sweatshirt	Available	REQUIRED ITEM No other shorts are permitted
Black Sports Socks	Available	REQUIRED ITEM No other colour socks are permitted.
Trainers	Not available	REQUIRED ITEM These should have laces and be fit for purpose. No plimsolls are permitted.
Shin pads (for hockey and football)	Not available	REQUIRED ITEM
Gum Shield (for rugby and hockey)	Not available	REQUIRED ITEM
Hair Tie	Not available	REQUIRED ITEM for students with hair that may impede vision during practical activities.
*Football / rugby boots	Not available	Rugby safety studs are to be worn in rugby boots. Screw-in studs are not permitted
TBCS or Aldworth (Y9-Y11) Tracksuit Bottoms or leggings	Available	OPTIONAL ITEM Plain Black leggings and tracksuit bottoms are acceptable.
*Towel	Not available	OPTIONAL ITEM

Appendix C – details pertaining to appearance for all students

Appearance	Guidance / description	Variations not permitted
Earrings	<p>One conventional, plain gold or silver-coloured stud no bigger than 4mm can be worn in each ear lobe only.</p> <p>Students may only have their ears pierced ONCE in each ear lobe.</p> <p>It is strongly advised that students wishing to have their ears pierced should do so at the beginning of the summer holiday, so as to avoid the need for spacers and – or additional piercings to close up.</p> <p>Earrings are brought to the school at the students' own risk.</p>	<p>No other style of earring is permitted. No other body jewellery is permitted.</p> <p>No spacers, belly button piercings, nose studs, tongue piercings are allowed to be worn.</p> <p>In Physical Education lessons and in PE extra-curricular activities, studs and watches may not be worn</p>
Hair	<p>Students are permitted to colour their hair; however, this must be of a natural colour (e.g. blonde, black, brown, auburn, etc). Highlights of a natural colour are permitted.</p>	<p>Non-natural hair colours are permitted.</p> <p>Students are not permitted to have any marking or tramlines shaved into their hair.</p> <p>No extreme haircuts permitted e.g. Mohicans.</p> <p>If in doubt please consult the school before committing to a specific hair cut style.</p>
Nails	<p>Natural nails only (without varnish)</p>	<p>Nail varnish, acrylic or gel nails are not permitted to be worn.</p> <p>Pupils will be asked to remove/shorten nails in a timely manner.</p>
Jewellery	<p>Watches are allowed and encouraged in school. Smart watches not connected to mobile devices.</p> <p>Medical bracelets are permitted to be worn.</p>	<p>No other jewellery is permitted to be worn, even if for sentimental reasons.</p> <p>Necklaces, bracelets, chains and rings are not permitted.</p> <p>In Physical Education lessons and in PE extra-curricular activities, studs and watches may not be worn</p>

Headphones	Headphones / earphones are not permitted to be visible or worn in school.	Failure to adhere to this policy will result in the items being confiscated.
Make-up	Students are permitted to wear discreet levels of natural coloured make-up.	Fake eyelashes and eyelash extensions are not permitted in school.
Glasses	<p>Students are permitted to wear prescription glasses only. As such, sunglasses can only be worn if they are prescribed by an appropriate medical professional.</p> <p>The only exception to this rule is during sports day, or extreme temperatures where students may be exposed to the sunlight for a prolonged period of time on that day.</p>	No Sunglasses

