

Sixth Form Dress Code

Our dress code represents the ethos of our Sixth Form: a formal working environment where we strive for excellence. By upholding these standards we create a positive and professional environment with a focus on personal development and academic success. Our dress code aims to support personal expression within smart business wear.

Why it Matters- excerpt from an [article in Forbes magazine](#) by Tracy Brower, PhD (May 2023):

Fascinating research has found how you dress affects your perception of yourself, your performance and even how you think. A study in the journal of Social Psychological and Personality Science found when you dress in a more professional way, you tend to perceive yourself to have more power, you tend to identify more with the people around you and you tend to think more effectively.

And while you certainly want to be authentic and comfortable, how you dress is also a demonstration of your professionalism. In the wise words of one Gen Zer, “You’re paid to do a job, you should look like you’re working.”

You’ll make an impression with how you show up, and you’ll want to be intentional about what that impression is. In a perfect world, people might not judge each other, but it’s reality that humans tend to make quick assessments of you based on your manner and how you present yourself—and this extends to how you dress. It’s a representation of you and also of your company.

Message from the Sixth Form Student Council:

Over the past few months, the Sixth Form Council has conducted extensive research on dress codes in other sixth forms and workplaces. Based on our findings, we have determined that the proposed dress code is the most suitable approach for our Sixth Form moving forward.

| Article of clothing | Permitted | Not Permitted |
|----------------------------|--|---|
| Trousers | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Tailored trousers - Smart work trousers -Chinos Neutral Colours -Smart (navy or black) solid colour jeans. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Distressed or ripped jeans -Jogging bottoms/ tracksuits/sportswear -Leggings |
| Skirts and Shorts | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Dresses/skirts which are a suitable length for a workplace environment -Smart/Tailored shorts (chino type.) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Athletic or lycra shorts - Jorts (denim shorts) -Sportswear e.g. cycling shorts |
| Shirts and tops | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Smart shirts or blouses - Collared polo shirts, no obvious or excessively big logos, any solid colour - Plain T-shirts allowed (plain colour, minimal branding) - Smart tops | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Bright, patterned coloured shirts (e.g. Hawaiian shirts) -T-shirts or tops with written messages or excessive branding on -Thin strapped vest tops -Crop tops |
| Shoes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Smart dress shoes (Oxfords, boat shoes, loafers etc) -Smart leather (black or brown) boots -Non-athletic, smart trainers -Plain canvas shoes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Crocs -Sandals/sliders -Athletic trainers/Sport trainers -Platform shoes or boots |
| Jumpers/cardigans | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Smart jumpers or cardigans with minimal branding visible | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Hoodies |
| Outdoor wear | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Coats and waterproof jackets -Hats, gloves and scarves | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any outdoor wear whilst in the school building. |
| Tights | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Neutral Colours, e.g black, skin tone, navy, grey. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Ripped or net type designs |
| Other | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Plain coloured religious headdress or other religious clothing | |
| Blazers/jackets/tie | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Optional for all students | |

In cases of financial hardship, students may apply for a [bursary](#) to assist with associated costs. We strongly encourage all students to consider sustainability by purchasing second-hand clothing whenever possible. There are numerous online platforms dedicated to selling pre-loved clothing and shoes.

Additionally, all Sixth Form students are required to **wear their lanyards at all times** while on school premises. This is a crucial safeguarding measure and must be strictly followed by all students.

The dress code outlined is not exhaustive and may not cover every potential item of clothing. The Sixth Form Team will provide guidance to students if any clothing item is deemed inappropriate for smart work attire.