

# School Uniform and Appearance Policy

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May 2019 – July 2020

### **School Uniform and Appearance Policy**

Our School Uniform is important to us. It is one way in which we identify ourselves as a school family and it promotes a strong, cohesive school identity which supports high standards and expectations in all areas of school life. It promotes a genuine sense of readiness to work and a focused frame of mind.

**Smartness and high standards of appearance are expected at all times.**

At Burscough Priory Academy, we believe that a school uniform is important, because it:

- Looks smart
- Is cost effective
- Contributes to a sense of belonging
- Fosters a feeling of pride
- Reduces 'fashion competition' between students

Our uniform has been chosen after extensive consultation.

### **Our School Uniform**

- White shirt with top button fastened and shirt tails tucked into trousers/skirt
- Grey school trousers with school logo **or** grey skirt with school badge (skirts should be knee length)
- Navy blazer with school badge
- School tie (different version for Year 11)
- Grey V-necked school jumper with purple trim (optional)
- Plain, black socks
- If wearing the skirt, socks should be long but no higher than the knee – no patterns or bows) or plain black tights (minimum 40 denier) can be worn

### **Footwear**

Plain, black, smart, sturdy shoes (Boots, trainers, shoes with logos, flimsy ballet/court shoes, pumps, fabric or high heels are not acceptable). For information, if you are unsure of the suitability of footwear, please ask a member of the pastoral team. Acceptable footwear is at the discretion of the Executive Headteacher.

### **Outdoor clothing**

Outdoor wear should be a plain dark coloured coat. Casual outer garments such as non-school jumpers, hoodies, fleeces, cardigans, leather or denim jackets etc. are not acceptable. Any other coloured or patterned outdoor coats must be removed on entry into school and should not be worn onsite during the school day. We strongly advise that expensive branded outdoor clothing is not worn for daily school use as the school will not accept responsibility for the loss or damage to these items.

During warmer weather, especially during the summer months, coats should be removed and placed in bags, lockers or carried. Blazers should be worn at all times around school including movement to and from lessons and coats should not be worn in place of blazers. The senior staff will inform staff and students if the uniform policy is to be relaxed during hot weather.

Dark coloured scarves and hats may be worn during cold weather but these should not be worn in the school buildings. Hoods should also not be worn within the school building.

### **Bags and belongings**

- Every student should have a school bag for school equipment.
- Bags should be sturdy and dark in colour.

### **P.E. and Games Kit**

#### **All students**

- Navy T-shirt, navy shorts and navy/grey socks, all with Burscough Priory Academy badge, for indoor and warm weather activities
- Navy reversible sports top or navy quarter zip top, both with Burscough Priory Academy badge, for outdoor sports
- Optional navy track pants, also with Burscough Priory Academy badge
- Trainers; black soled not allowed
- Football / rugby boots/ shin pads/ gum shield – staff will notify when these are required

For all PE lessons (including indoor lessons) **non-participating students** must have a complete change of clothing, for example, trainers or football boots, tracksuit bottoms, T-shirt and a sweatshirt. They will be involved in the lesson in other ways to ensure that they are supervised at all times. Bringing a change of clothes ensures that your son/daughter still has a clean/dry uniform for school use and that they are suitably dressed to undertake a variety of roles such as sports leaders, officials and organisers.

Consequently if you send your child into school with a note explaining why they cannot participate then a change of clothing/footwear as detailed above will also be required.

#### **Gender specific clothing**

You will note that the uniform display boards on the website separates items by boy/girl. Please note that whilst these are the recommended fit, our students are welcome to purchase and wear any items regardless of gender.

## **Fashion Items / Other**

**Earrings:** no more than one piercing per ear, (ear lobes only) with one plain gold or silver stud, which should be removed for P.E. Any other piercings will be removed in school.

**Nose studs or retainers** are not allowed and students will need to remove these in school.

No **jewellery** except for earrings (as above) and a watch. If a student needs to wear a piece of jewellery for medical or religious reasons, it should be removed or covered up during physical activity or during practical learning. Jewellery worn for medical or religious reasons will only be allowed once approval has been sought and agreed in writing in advance.

**Hair** should not obscure a student's vision. Extreme hairstyles or colourings are not allowed. Hair should be cut no shorter than grade 2. If parents are unsure as to the suitability of a hairstyle, they should check with the pastoral team in school first. Hair accessories should be small, plain and black. No flowers or bows should be worn. Shaved patterns in hair or eyebrows will not be permitted.

Any **make up, including false tan** worn in school should be discreet. **Nail varnish or false nails** are not allowed.

**Facial hair** should be tidy and is therefore at the discretion of the Headteacher.

No student should have any **tattoo** which is visible (including swimming kit).

## **Non-Compliance with the School Uniform Policy**

As a school, we place high priority on preparedness for work and adherence to school standards and rules. Whilst the uniform policy is agreed by the Trustees, the day to day implementation of it is the responsibility of the Headteacher, supported by the school staff.

**The lists above are not exhaustive, and the final decision of suitability or not, of the appearance of students lies with the Headteacher.**

**The Headteacher may discipline a student for breach of the Uniform and Appearance Policy in line with other policies and procedures.**

If a student presents recurring issues with their uniform, they may be required to carry a standards card. For minor breaches of the uniform policy (for example, ties not done up correctly, shirts not tucked in) the student will be required to rectify the problem and will have their standards card signed by the member of staff who has spoken to them about the problem. Four signatures will result in a pastoral detention. If a student loses their

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card, in the first instance they will be issued with another card. If it is lost again they will receive a pastoral detention.

In the situation where a student is in school in incorrect uniform, this may result in internal exclusion in the Pastoral Development Centre if the issue cannot be rectified. Parents will be contacted and informed that this course of action has been taken. If parents are able to rectify the situation, by, for example, bringing to school the appropriate school uniform, the student will then return to class.

Students may be required, in the case of inappropriate uniform/footwear, to wear uniform/shoes provided by the school in order to allow them to carry on with normal lessons.

External exclusion may be considered where breaches of the Uniform and Appearance Policy are 'persistent and defiant'.

Where uniform is not being worn correctly due to a short term medical issue (e.g. short term problems with footwear) students will be required to work in the Personal Development Centre as a medical/ Health and Safety intervention, in line with current risk assessments.

The decision to retain a student internal exclusion or the Personal Development Centre is at the discretion of Student Services, supported and moderated by the Headteacher. Parents have no legal right to refuse this. Any complaints about this should be submitted in line with our Complaints Procedure.

This policy will be reviewed on an annual basis.

Date: May 2019

\* Headteacher denotes the Executive Headteacher or their designated representative