


## STUDENT UNIFORM POLICY

<b>RESPONSIBILITY:</b>	<b>LEARNING &amp; ACHIEVEMENT COMMITTEE</b>
<b>PROPOSED BY:</b>	<b>PAUL PHILLIPS</b>
<b>TYPE OF POLICY:</b>	<b>RECOMMENDED</b>
<b>ON WEBSITE:</b>	<b>YES</b>

<b>DATE AGREED BY FULL GOVERNING BODY:</b>	<b>13 JULY 2020</b>
<b>FREQUENCY OF REVIEW:</b>	<b>3 YEARLY</b>
<b>NEXT REVIEW BY LEARNING &amp; ACHIEVEMENT COMMITTEE :</b>	<b>JUNE 2022</b>

<b>APPROVED BY:</b>	<b>FULL GOVERNING BODY</b>
<b>DATE APPROVED AND ISSUED:</b>	<b>13 JULY 2020</b>
<b>SIGNATURE:</b>	 <b>CHAIR OF GOVERNORS</b>

In reviewing this policy, the Learning & Achievement Committee has taken into account the provisions of the Vandyke Equality Policy 2016.



## School Uniform

Our uniform is an outward sign of students' commitment to and pride in their school. It has been chosen with regard to what is comfortable to 13-16 year olds. Cost and availability have also been considered.

All students must wear the following items:

- Regulation white Vandyke polo shirt with logo on chest\*
- Regulation burgundy Vandyke jumper or cardigan with logo on sleeve\*
- Grey, black or white socks

### Skirts

The only skirt that is permissible is the plain black regulation Vandyke skirt (only obtainable from Wear2School)\*

**\* These items are exclusively in stock at Wear2School in North Street, Leighton Buzzard**

### Trousers

Trousers must be formal and dark grey or black. They should be plain and unpatterned (no checks or stripes, etc. are permitted). Acceptable styles of formal black trousers can be found in H&M and New Look, as well as other stockists.

For clarity:

- **Black denim jeans or jeggings are not permitted**, as these after a short amount of time will fade with washing and take on a more informal appearance which we deem to be inappropriate for school.
- **Jeans style trousers made from non-denim are not acceptable.** This means they must not have jeans style studs or pockets, double stitched seams, or piping on seams.
- **Black leggings (Sports style or casual) in any form are not permitted**, as a shiny fabric or cotton lycra mix after some time can deteriorate, become see-through and therefore inappropriate for school.

### Shoes

Shoes must be all black and polishable. Shoes such as the Nike Airforce shoes that have a plain black sole and plain black logo are permitted.

Casual sport shoes of any kind, including plimsolls, black canvas trainers (such as Vans or Converse), or any other fabric trainer/soft shoe are not acceptable for school.

## Headwear

Hoodies or hats should not be worn inside the school building.

As daily life in school involves a great deal of interpersonal contact, it is inappropriate to wear items that cover facial expressions: girls who wish to wear headscarves in observance of their religious beliefs may do so, as long as these conform to the requirements listed below:

- The fabric should be lightweight and a plain dark colour
- The headscarves should be folded under the chin, taken round to the back of the neck and the ends tucked in - this conforms to health and safety requirements
- Headscarves should be worn so that the collar of the polo shirt can be seen

**For further clarification on uniform, please look on the school website where you can find photographs of both acceptable and unacceptable uniform items so you are able to make informed choices before purchasing.**

## **Jewellery, Hairstyles and Make-up**

In general, jewellery is inappropriate for school. Apart from the security issue, there are health and safety issues about wearing some items of jewellery. **Large hooped earrings, flesh tunnels, ear stretchers, bars, ear cuffs, spikes and chains for example**, are not allowed for these reasons.

Students must limit jewellery to:

- small sleepers or stud earrings (limited to one per ear) - multiple earrings are not permitted
- a watch
- one ring on each hand - multiple rings are not allowed
- one necklace, which must be tucked inside the polo shirt

***N.b. The school is not insured for students' jewellery or other personal effects if these go missing.***

Extremes of hairstyle and make-up are not appropriate for school and are not acceptable. **Hair colour must be natural shades only.**

Body piercing is strictly limited to nose (stud) and ear, i.e. no eyebrow, lip, or other piercings are allowed. Nose rings are not permitted.

**If you are in any doubt about the appropriateness of clothing items, hairstyles or jewellery, please contact the school for clarification.**

## **Sourcing**

The school will review its supplier of uniform every three years, to ensure arrangements achieve best value and are in accordance with the latest DfE guidance.

## **Parental Support**

We expect parent(s)/carer(s) to support us in maintaining high standards of uniform. If for any reason a parent/carers is unable to provide uniform due to financial difficulties, we may be able to help. Please contact the school, in confidence, as a matter of urgency and ask to speak to the Head of House or Student Support Coordinator. We keep a supply of uniform items which are, in many cases, new and are, in all cases, laundered and ready to wear. These items may be borrowed for a limited period. We regularly update our stock, so there is no reason why any student should be out of uniform.

## **Students Arriving at School out of Uniform**

Each morning, tutors will check the uniform of students in their group. If the tutor is unable to resolve an issue, students out of uniform will be referred to the House office. The Head of House will then do one of four things:

- arrange for the student to borrow an item(s) of uniform
- contact home and ask a parent/carers to bring in an item of uniform
- consult with the Director of House and refer the student to the Achievement Support Centre (ASC) where they will complete their lesson work until the uniform issue is resolved
- in exceptional circumstances, after consultation with the Director of House or Deputy Headteacher, the school will arrange with parents/carers for students to go home to change

## **Medical Issues regarding Footwear**

In exceptional circumstances, students will be allowed to wear black trainers for medical reasons. Parent(s)/carer(s) must contact the Headteacher in writing and provide medical evidence (e.g. Doctor's/hospital note) to support this request. In most cases, sensible school shoes provide better support for injuries than training shoes. This will be subject to regular review by the House team.

## **Mobile Phones, MP3 Players, iPods, etc.**

Vandyke strongly discourages the bringing in to school of expensive items such as mobile phones, MP3 Players, or iPods. We take no responsibility for such items. We insist, however, that if students do bring such items into school they must be switched off and placed in a secure locker, or in bags, during all lessons or assemblies. We reserve the right to ban students from bringing such items to school if they use them inappropriately, or are in breach of our clear expectations above.

## **Being Equipped for School**

An important part of every student's uniform is the equipment brought into school each day to facilitate learning. Details of what equipment students should bring in each day will be provided. Secure lockers are available for all students to store books, PE kit and other items of school equipment.

### **PE Kit**

It is an expectation that all students take part in PE lessons in the correct PE kit. Details of the requirements for PE kit will be communicated to new students and parent(s)/carer(s) during the new intake process.

Being fully equipped is a sign of a student's commitment to their learning:

***“Be prepared, be successful!”***

**This policy document should leave no student or parent/carers unsure about the school expectations regarding uniform, PE kit, mobile phones, iPods, MP3 players, etc.**

**If any parent/carers wishes to discuss issue(s) arising from this policy document, they should contact the school at their earliest convenience.**