



STUDENT UNIFORM POLICY

Years 9 - 11

RESPONSIBILITY:	LEARNING & ACHIEVEMENT COMMITTEE
PROPOSED BY:	DEPUTY HEADTEACHER (PASTORAL)
TYPE OF POLICY:	STATUTORY
ON WEBSITE:	YES

DATE AGREED BY THE LEARNING & ACHIEVEMENT COMMITTEE	26 TH JUNE 2025
FREQUENCY OF REVIEW:	3 YEARLY
NEXT REVIEW BY LEARNING & ACHIEVEMENT COMMITTEE :	JULY 2028

APPROVED BY:	FULL GOVERNING BOARD
DATE APPROVED AND ISSUED:	14 JULY 2025 (VERSION INCLUDING PHOTOGRAPHS)
SIGNATURE:	 PIPPA BAZALGETTE CHAIR OF GOVERNORS

In reviewing this policy, the Learning & Achievement Committee has taken into account the provisions of the Equality Act 2010.



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School Uniform

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

Students must wear the following items:

- regulation white Vandyke polo shirt with logo on chest*
- regulation burgundy Vandyke jumper **or** cardigan **or** hoodie with school logo*
 - Students must not wear non-uniform hoodies to school, even as a coat replacement
- Professional length formal tailored black shorts just above the knee
or
- Formal black skirt of a professional length just above the knee
 - Skirts must not be stretchy, lycra material**or**
- Formal dark grey or black trousers. For clarity, trousers must be:
 - black/dark grey and plain/unpatterned (no checks, stripes, etc.)
 - **'jeggings-style' trousers and leggings are not permitted**
 - **'jeans style' trousers made from non-denim material are not acceptable**

This means they must not have any of the following features:

 - jeans-style studs or pockets
 - large coloured belts or buckles (a black belt is allowed)
 - double stitched seams, or piping on seams
 - Be of a thin, and potentially see-through, material
- grey, black or white socks
 - shoes must be all black and polishable – without obvious brand logos. Sports shoes of any kind, including plimsolls, black canvas trainers/ Vans/Converse or any other canvas footwear are not acceptable.
- 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 unless mandated by legislation (e.g., as with Covid): 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

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

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 single 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. Where possible the school will aim to provide more than one supplier.

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 Year. 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.

The school also offers pre-loved uniform events throughout the academic year. These are advertised in the library during school events. Pre-loved items are free of charge and are laundered before being made available. For further information, please contact reception.

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 year team office. The Head of Year will then do one of four things:

- arrange for the student to borrow an item(s) of uniform
- contact home and ask a parent/carer to bring in an item of uniform
- consult with the Director of Year 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 Year 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 year team.

Mobile Phones and Bluetooth devices (including smartwatches and earbuds)

Vandyke strongly discourages the bringing into school of expensive items such as mobile phones, Bluetooth devices, smart Watches and earbuds. 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, assemblies and meetings. 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.

PE Kit:

Burgundy Branded polo shirt*	Black football socks
Burgundy sweatshirt/hoodie* (Optional)	White sports socks (indoor)
Burgundy or plain black shorts or skort	Training shoes (not plimsolls)
or black tracksuit bottoms	Football boots

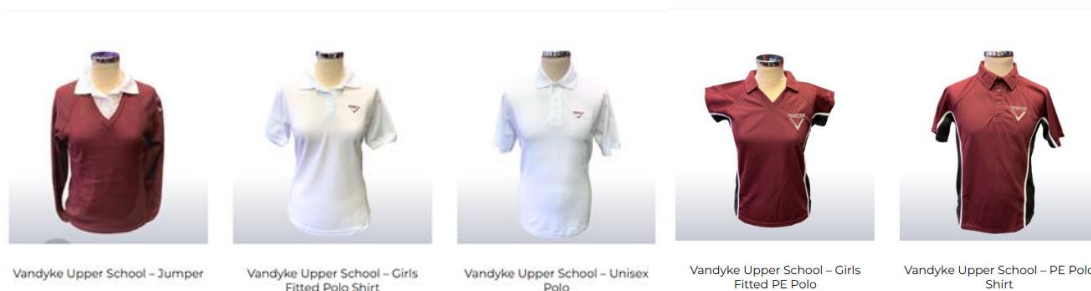
* As with school uniform, all items are readily available at reasonable prices from a local stockist – Wear2School (North Street, Leighton Buzzard). PE shorts must not be 'hot pant' or cycling short styles (e.g. Nike Pros). No mesh patterns are allowed and all shorts must be plain.

Please help the PE Department to maintain its high standards by supporting our code for PE kit.

Being fully equipped is a sign of a student's commitment to their learning and supports our vision for all students to be 'World Ready.'

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

Example of Compulsory items:



Example of optional branded items from Wear2School



(PE use only)

Example of optional items:

