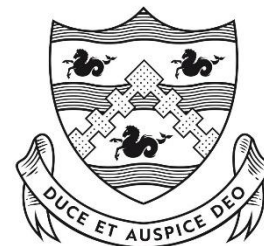


Uniform and Appearance Guidance 2022-2023



Ambition • Service • Kindness

All items of uniform are available from our on-line supplier www.kitzuk.co.uk

School crested items are **only** available through this school supplier, however, you are free to purchase other items from high-street retailers if you wish, but please do **check that the style and cut is the same as outlined here, and available from our school suppliers, as these are the only style/cut we will accept.**

In an effort to assist parents and students, we have produced this guide, which we will update and circulate.

We also hope that, for students, it will clarify that it is not just what you wear, but the way that you wear it that matters.

We do hold a small stock of second-hand items (particularly coats), so please contact the school if you wish to view them.

Please do remember to clearly and permanently mark all items with the owner's name as it is nearly impossible to reunite un-named lost items with the rightful owner.

Shirt and Tie

**Plain white shirt, stiff pointed collar, long sleeved, buttoned to the neck.
The appropriate house tie (only available from school supplier).**

- ✓ Shirt is to be 'formal', standard/school, cotton/polyester (not flannel or linen etc).
- ✓ Top button must be done up, shirt tails/bottom tucked into trousers/skirt at all times, sleeves rolled down.
- ✓ Clip on tie is to be worn at all times, clipped onto the top button, which should always be done up and worn at the appropriate length/style. Its fixed construction/design should not be altered in any way.
- ✓ Undergarments should not be visible beneath shirt (i.e. a plain white T-shirt with no logos to provide additional warmth/protection is acceptable as long as the V-neck jumper is also worn).
- ✓ Short sleeve shirts are optional for the Summer Term only.



YES 😊



YES 😊



NO 😞

Long sleeves rolled up

V-neck jumper with school crest

Black, school V-neck jumper with crest (only available from school supplier)

- ✓ Must be worn at all times (except during the Summer Term) and must not be tucked in to skirts or trousers.
- ✓ No other jumpers or alternative tops are allowed (e.g. hoodies, sweatshirts or cardigans etc) and the sleeves of the jumper must not be rolled up at any time.



Yes 😊



Yes 😊



No 😞

Jumper tucked into skirt
(.. and skirt too short)



No 😞

Sleeves rolled up

Standard School Trousers/Skirt

Plain black full length standard school trousers or black pleated skirt (to be purchased from Kitz)

- ✓ The standard pleated school skirt is to be of modest length and not of figure hugging design. No shorter than 2 inches above the top of the knee and no longer than mid-calf length.
- ✓ Skirts must not be rolled-up. No other style is permitted. Please purchase from our school supplier.
- ✓ Standard school trousers must not be tight, excessively flared, long/short/skinny, rolled-up or considered extreme in fashion. Please purchase from our school supplier.
- ✓ No jeans or denim-type material, chinos, cords, leggings, shorts, ¾-length, multi-pocketed or combat style are permitted.
- ✓ Belts to be black and max of 5cm wide with a small, discreet buckle.



😊 YES



😊 YES



😞 NO

Jean Style



😞 NO

*****Too Short and too tight*****



😞 NO

Shoes, Socks and Tights

Black leather, polishable, formal school shoe of a safe and supportive style.

- ✓ Heel height not exceeding 3cm, with a sensible sole appropriate for all indoor and outdoor floor surfaces.
- ✓ Socks should be plain black (not patterned) and of standard length (base of calf).
- ✓ Tights to be plain black, not patterned or textured.
- ✓ Trainers/'trainer style' shoes or skate shoes (Nike/Vans etc) suede shoes, boots, canvas or ballet style, sling back, or open toed shoes are not appropriate for school and should not be worn.
- ✓ Trainers may only be worn when taking part in a sporting activity.



☺ YES



☺ YES



☹ NO
Boots



☹ NO
Canvas



☹ NO
Trainers/trainer style



Coat and Outdoor Garments (scarves, hats, gloves, bags etc)

The school crested, reversible coat/fleece ONLY.

- ✓ **No other coat is permitted.**
- ✓ All students are expected to have a school coat as it will be required for going on any school trip or visit. (Only available from our school supplier).
- ✓ Any non-school gloves/hats/scarf should be plain and dark in colour (preferably black).
- ✓ Any scarves must be straight 'college' style only (no large pashmina types permitted).
- ✓ School bags – preferably dark in colour and must be appropriate for school use (e.g. rucksack style, no 'fashion' handbags).

Jewellery

One pair of plain studs or sleepers (one in each ear).

A plain wrist watch.

- ✓ Studs or sleepers to be worn in the ear lobe only (not in the upper or inner part of the ear).
- ✓ Sleepers to be no larger in size than a 5p coin and no other 'dangly' earrings, stretchers, bars or any other type/style of earrings are allowed.
- ✓ No other rings, bands, necklaces, bracelets, bangles, visible piercings (e.g. nose/lip/eyebrow/tongue studs or rings) or 'decoration' permitted (and may not simply be covered with a plaster).
- ✓ 'Hidden' piercings may need to be removed for PE for safety.
- ✓ All new piercings must take place in the summer holidays to allow the necessary healing to take place and so that they can be safely removed for PE lessons.

Hair and Make-up

Hair is to be tidy, of 'business-like' appearance and natural in colour – not dyed.

No make-up is allowed for Years 7 and 8.

Discreet, natural looking make-up only for Years 9, 10 and 11.

Nail varnish is not allowed.

- ✓ Hair must not be extreme in style/length/decoration, contain patterns or lines or any colouring.
- ✓ Boys must remain clean shaven.
- ✓ Hair bands/ties/scrunchies are to be black and plain.

Why We Have Uniform

At Beaminster we believe that the smart, business-like appearance of our students is important.

We feel that our practical, comfortable and relatively inexpensive uniform helps to instil pride, support positive behaviour/discipline, encourage identity with the school ethos and protect children from social pressures to dress in a particular way. This is a view supported by the Governing body, teachers and the majority of parents and students.

LEARNING

School should be a place where youngsters concentrate on their learning. Unfortunately, concerns over fashion and body image can become a major distraction. Image has always been important to most teenagers and we would always wish to encourage our students to take pride in their appearance. However, many schools have become increasingly concerned about the sexualisation of young people through inappropriately worn and/or tailored items of uniform such as figure-hugging short skirts and skinny/tight trousers. There are many articles in the press regarding, this including a school that has banned skirts altogether. At Beaminster we have chosen to merely limit choice.

CHOICE

We aim to make our uniform policy clear and comprehensive to assist both parents and students in making the right choice. Being mindful of cost and the vast array of different body shapes, we have tried to give parents the option to source as many uniform items as possible from their preferred suppliers. However, retailers often advertise inappropriate items of clothing as 'school uniform'. This leads to inconsistencies and frustrations for parents, students and staff alike. **Having consulted with student and parents, we introduced a standard skirt and trousers in September 2019.**

FAIRNESS

One of the frustrations voiced by some parents and students seems to be that a handful of individuals *appear* to get away with not complying with the uniform and appearance rules whilst they dutifully stick to them. It is a frustration we understand and so address this with regular uniform checks and the support of parents.

YOUR ROLE

As a good percentage of our staff are also parents, we really do appreciate the difficult, unpopular and sometimes painful decisions parents have to make in shops when selecting replacement uniform. We know that most parents will remember the same battles they had with their parents when they were at school! Ensuring students leave the house dressed appropriately is not always easy for every parent, but it does make things so much easier when students arrive at school.

CONSISTENCY

Many schools (with less supportive parents and students than Beaminster!) have taken fairly draconian steps to address the issue of inconsistency. Some have banned skirts altogether and isolated students wearing figure-hugging trousers, citing the number of student and teacher hours wasted tackling the age-old issues of how short or tight skirts and trousers are allowed to be. Other schools require that all uniform is purchased from a sole-supplier, who sell just one style of everything to ensure that ALL items of uniform meet the school's requirements.

Some parents have welcomed both these steps as it takes the decision-making away from them. Others feel it has increased financial costs and removed their freedom to buy the best 'fit' for their child's shape. We hope that at Beaminster we have reached a middle ground that has been welcomed by the majority of parents and students.

YOUR VIEWS

We are always happy to hear your views on all matters to do with uniform. However, **maintaining high standards of uniform and appearance is non-negotiable at Beaminster**, for all the reasons outlined above.

We therefore hope we can rely on your parental support to comply with the requirements set out here and in our uniform policy. If there is any reason why you feel you are unable to do this, then please do speak with your child's Tutor in the first instance, and we will be more than happy to assist in any way we can.