

BEAMINSTER SCHOOL

BEAMINSTER
DORSET DT8 3EP

Tel: 01308 862633
Absence Line: 01308 861917



Ambition • Service • Kindness

HEADTEACHER
MR K HALES NPQH

DEPUTY HEADS
MR D WITHERS NPQH
MR R BARNES MEd

Email: office@beaminster.dorset.sch.uk

Website: www.beaminster.dorset.sch.uk

December 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

IMPORTANT UNIFORM AND APPEARANCE REMINDERS

As the Autumn term draws to a close we just wanted to thank all those of you who have ensured your child/ren are smartly presented and ready to learn each and every day. What a difference it makes to not to have to waste valuable time on uniform or appearance issues - just as it should be, thank you!

As a school, we make no apology for maintaining the highest possible standards of appearance, so for any student or parent still requiring clarification of expectations, our Policy is attached again here for your information.

If we do spot issues that are still to be resolved at this late stage of term, we will endeavour to contact parents directly, but please do double check the Policy at home and make any overdue changes before the new year. Some issues this term have included:

1. **Shoes** – Anything that looks like a trainer or a ‘hybrid style’ trainer-shoe is not permitted. There is a photo guide to help parents select an appropriate style. Retailers will often brand these hybrid shoes as ‘School Shoes’ or put them in their ‘Back to School’ range. However, they are not considered appropriate footwear in many schools, including ours. Our shoes are best described as ‘traditional leather shoes’. Socks should be plain black with no visible logos.
2. **Hair** – Must not be dyed, shaved short, contain lines/patterns/decoration. Mullets, severe fades, overly long hair, or any hairstyle considered extreme is not permitted. Please ensure any non-compliant cuts/styles are rectified in time for the start of the Spring Term. For health and safety reasons, long hair must be tied back (plain black hair ties/scrunchies only). Boys must remain clean shaven.
3. **Piercings** – Only one single small stud or sleeper in the lobe of each ear is permitted. Any other piercing must be removed for school. Nose/lip/tongue/eyebrow (or any other piercing that has a stud/bar/ring in it) is not permitted. The use of plasters or clear plastic studs to hide these piercings will not be accepted. We also do not permit nail varnish, false nails, false eyelashes or fake tan!
4. **Skirts** – To guarantee the uniformity of the pleat, length and style, all skirts must be purchased through our supplier, Kitz. If a skirt is purchased elsewhere, it must be identical to the ones sold by Kitz. The skirt is expected to reach the knee. The current trend for some students, is to buy an under-sized skirt or roll it up so it appears much shorter. We appreciate that different body types will affect the length of skirts, but to be fair to everyone, could we please ask that, any skirts that are not the required length are altered over the Christmas break to ensure they meet the policy. Students who fail to wear their skirt at the correct length after Christmas will not be permitted to wear one. They will be issued with trousers to wear.

We hope this guidance has helped those who have sought clarification this term, but also that it is useful for parents who may need to purchase new items of uniform or arrange haircuts over the holiday.

A small number of pre-loved school coats are available for purchase or exchange, should you wish to view them now that winter is upon us.

If we continue to maintain our high standards by getting the simple things right, like uniform, we can then put all our energy into focussing on each child's learning and progress. Nobody wants to start their school day with anything other than a smile and warm greeting, so please help us to do this by ensuring your son/daughter is appropriately dressed and is clear about our expectations. We can then all spend our time together in 2024 productively and positively.

Thank you for your support and we wish you all a lovely, relaxing Christmas break.

Beaminster School

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