

BEAMINSTER SCHOOL

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Ambition • Service • Kindness

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Dear Parents and Carers

I hope this finds you all well and continuing to enjoy your summer break.

Despite not really wanting to think about it just yet, September is not too far away and I know that many parents are starting to look at new shoes, items of uniform and smart new haircuts for the new school term!

A few parents have already sought some clarification about certain aspects of our policy, so I have attached a copy of it and have set out below some common issues raised by those wanting to ensure their child is fully compliant come the start of the new school year.

Shoes – Anything that looks anything like a trainer or a ‘hybrid style’ trainer-shoe is not permitted, please refer to the photo guide in the attached policy to help selecting an appropriate style. Retailers will often brand 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.

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 ‘holiday cuts/styles/braids’ are rectified in time for the start of the new school year. For Health and Safety reasons, long hair must be tied back. Boys must remain clean shaven.

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. Nail varnish, false nails, false eyelashes or fake tan are also not permitted.

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 trend for some students last year was 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 skirts are checked over the break to ensure they meet the required length. Students who fail to wear their skirt at the correct length will not be permitted to wear one and will be issued with trousers to wear. Please note, shorts are only permitted in the summer term.

I hope this guidance has helped those who have sought clarification and is also useful for all parents who may need to purchase new items of uniform or arrange haircuts over the holiday. We do have a small number of pre-loved school coats available for purchase or exchange, should you wish to view them.

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 productively and positively.

Please ensure that all school uniform and other items are clearly and indelibly marked with the student’s name, it is virtually impossible to return lost items to the rightful owners unless they are named.

We wish you all a lovely, relaxing remainder of your summer break.

Mr Withers
Deputy Head