



THE BISHOPS' BLUE COAT CHURCH OF ENGLAND HIGH SCHOOL

UNIFORM POLICY 2020/2021 ACADEMIC YEAR

Is this policy statutory?	Yes
Review period	Every 3 years
Date of approval	June 2020

Contents:

1. Statement of intent
2. Legislative framework
3. Cost and availability
4. Religious clothing
5. Equality
6. Complaints and challenges
7. Indoor uniform
8. School bags
9. School coats
10. Jewellery
11. Make-up and body-art
12. Hair styles
13. PE kit
14. Adverse weather
15. Charities days
16. Disadvantaged First
17. Sixth form and uniform
18. Uniform and learning from home
19. Roles and responsibilities
20. BESt Bishops' Expected Standards

1. Statement of intent

Our vision statement states that:

The Bishops' Blue Coat Church of England High School is an exciting place to be. We know, nurture and inspire our community to be the best version of themselves through a better understanding of the Christian faith, and a rich set of opportunities that support and challenge our learners so they are equipped to succeed. Through their engagement in society at Bishops' and beyond, students make a positive difference through their wise action and a sense of responsibility. Our students' initiative, drive and resilience will enable them to flourish and live 'life in all its fullness.' (John 10:10).

We believe that all people are made in the image of God and are unconditionally loved by God. Everyone is equal and we treat each other with dignity and respect. Our school is a place where everyone should be able to flourish in a loving and hospitable community.

It is important that our students feel a sense of belonging and community through a smart and practical uniform. This policy has been created with health and safety, value for money, and practicality at its heart. It has been designed to ensure students wear clothing conducive to a successful learning environment

Year 7 to 11 students wear uniform items conducive to a successful learning environment. We believe a uniform allows all students, regardless of background, to feel equal to their peers and confident in their appearance. We also believe it is important for activities to be facilitated by specialised and appropriate clothing such as sports specific attire. It is important that our students feel a sense of belonging and community through a smart and practical uniform.

Sixth form students must dress sensibly and in a way which is appropriate for the school community.

The Bishops' Blue Coat CE High School is committed to promoting equality and value for money, and ensuring that no Student is discriminated against due to their religion or belief, economic circumstances or social and cultural background – this policy contains provisions to meet these objectives.

2. Legislative framework

This policy has due regard to statutory legislation and national guidance, including, but not limited to, the following:

- Education and Inspections Act 2006
- Education Act 2011
- Human Rights Act 1998
- Equality Act 2010
- [New] The General Data Protection Regulation
- [New] Data Protection Act 2018

This policy has due regard to all relevant guidance including, but not limited to, the following:

- DfE (2014) 'School Admissions Code'
- DfE (2013) 'School uniform'

3. Cost and availability

Under The School Admissions Code 2014, the school must ensure that *"policies around school uniform or school trips do not discourage parents/carers from applying for a place for their child"*.

The Bishops' Blue Coat CE High School is committed to meeting the DfE's recommendations on costs and value for money. Every care has been taken to ensure that our uniforms are affordable for all current and potential students, and that the best value for money is secured through reputable suppliers.

Students in Years 7 to 11 should wear all items of prescribed uniform and take a pride in their appearance.

The school does not amend uniform requirements regularly and takes into account the views of parents/carers and students when considering changes to school uniforms.

Where wholesale changes are required, the school ensures that assistance is provided to parents/carers struggling to meet the associated costs.

4. Religious clothing

Some religions and beliefs require their members to conform to a specific dress code. The Bishops' Blue Coat CE High School does not discriminate against any religion or belief; however, the school must weigh the needs and rights of individual students against the cohesion and health and safety concerns of the entire school community. The school endeavours to allow most religious requirements to be met.

Parent/carer concerns and requests regarding religious clothing are dealt with on a case-by-case basis by the Headteacher and governing body, and always in accordance with the school's Complaints Policy.

5. Equality

The school is required to ensure that the Uniform Policy does not discriminate unlawfully. Every step has been taken by The Bishops' Blue Coat CE High School to ensure that it is accessible to all and that the cost of uniforms are not disproportionate. The school endeavours to ensure that our uniform is as gender neutral and inclusive as possible.

6. Complaints and challenges

The school endeavours to resolve all uniform complaints and challenges locally and informally, in accordance with the school's Complaints Policy, available on the school website.

7. Indoor uniform

We are proud of The Bishops' High School uniform for Years 7-11. We expect it to reflect the high personal standards that we hold as a school community. It is important for all students to have the right clothing and to wear it correctly. Our school colours are Navy Blue and Mint Green

Items of clothing marked with an asterisk (*) can be obtained from our online supplier: www.monkhouse.com.

The school will publish dates during the year when the supplier is in school to enable students to try on items.

School uniform list

BLAZER* Navy, with school logo

SHIRT* Mint green. This should be tucked in

Either SKIRT or TROUSERS*:

TROUSERS Navy, standard, formal, full length school wear only. Not fashion style. No stretch, skinny or jean-style trousers, jeggings, leggings or bootlegs. No wide or decorative belts

SKIRT	Navy, formal, standard, plain school wear only. Skirts must be no shorter than 4 inches/10cm above the knee. No stretch cotton jersey, cord or lycra material, No tight-fitting or fashion styles, the skirt must allow for the shirt to be easily tucked in
JUMPER* (optional)	Navy V-neck, with school logo
TANK TOP* (optional)	Navy V-neck, with school logo
CLIP ON TIE*	Official school tie with mitre logo
SOCKS or tights	Plain navy or black
SCHOOL SHOES	All-black, polishable, plain, smart, low-heeled shoes. <i>Boots, trainer-style, fabric or fashion shoes, high heels or low backs are not allowed. Large logos are not acceptable,</i> Shoes should be kept clean.

Sixth form students wear casual dress and there is a general sense of 'compliance' with what is appropriate. We ask students to be modest, avoid clothing that could cause offence and to dress in a way that is suitable for the various settings in which they may be working or meet people at school.

8. School bags

Equipment and books are to be carried in a reasonably sized bag. Students must use an appropriately sized waterproof bag to carry their books and equipment. It should hold A4 sized work books comfortably without causing any damage.

9. School coats

School bags featuring inappropriate images, slogans or phrases are not permitted. During the colder months, we suggest that students wear a coat. Coats featuring inappropriate images, slogans or phrases are not permitted. Before entering the canteen or Bistro at breaktime or lunchtime we ask that students' remove their coats and wear their blazers. Failure to do so may involve students not being able to enter the canteen or Bistro.

The school encourages students to bring non-valuable bags and coats to school. The school will not be liable for lost or damaged school bags or coats.

10. Jewellery

The only permitted jewellery which may be worn is:

- A maximum of one plain, silver or gold stud earring to be worn on each ear-lobe. No other piercings are permitted to be worn.
- All jewellery must be removed during practical lessons, e.g. during PE lessons and science experiments
- A smart/sensible wrist watch

The school cannot accept any liability for personal belongings, valuables or other student owned property which could become lost, stolen or broken.

11. Make-up and body-art

- Finger nails should be short and neatly trimmed, false nails, nail extensions and long nails are not permitted. Only clear, colourless nail varnish may be worn.

- No visible make-up is to be worn.
- Students wearing make-up will be required to remove it or, if appropriate, will be sent home to remove it.
- Under the Tattooing of Minors Act 1969 it is a criminal offence to tattoo a child under the age of 18. Therefore, tattoos and such body art are not permitted.

12. Hair styles

- Hair should be worn in a neat, acceptable style and should be a natural colour.
- Hair styles or colour judged to be extreme by the Headteacher are not acceptable.
- Long hair must be tied up during practical lessons, e.g. during PE.
- Hair extensions are not permitted.

13. PE kit

The school PE kit is compulsory, unless otherwise stated. Items marked with an asterisk (*) must be official Bishops' kit, with the school logo, which are available from www.monkhouse.com.

***NAVY BISHOPS HIGH PE T SHIRT**

***NAVY BISHOPS HIGH PE SHORTS OR SKORT**

***NAVY BISHOPS HIGH QUARTER ZIP TRAINING TOP (optional)**

***NAVY BISHOPS HIGH TRAINING TROUSERS or LEGGINGS (optional)**

***NAVY GAMES or NAVY SPORTS SOCKS**

*** SPORTS-SPECIFIC TRAINERS AND FOOTBALL BOOTS** – no pumps of any kind are allowed (Converse, Toms, Vans, etc)

- Parents/carers are advised students wear shin pads and gum shields for contact sport.
- Parents/carers are responsible for ensuring their child brings their PE kit to school when needed.

14. Adverse weather

- Everyone working at/attending the school during hot/cold weather conditions is required to wear appropriate clothing.
- During hot weather students will still be required to bring their blazers to school, but will be told when they can remove them.
- During hot weather students are expected to apply sunscreen before school and re apply at breaktimes and lunchtimes if necessary.
- During cold weather, students should bring additional scarfs, gloves, coats and hats and are permitted to wear these when they are outside.

15. Charities Days

The school runs specific, clearly designated occasions, such as some Charity Days, when students may be allowed to wear their own choice of clothes. On these days students aren't expected to wear school uniform. They are given permission to wear their own clothes. These clothes must be suitable for learning in school and appropriate for a school environment. Specific details of Charities Days are shared with parents throughout the academic year.

16. Disadvantaged First

The Pupil Premium Grant (PPG) was introduced in April 2011 for students from deprived or disadvantaged backgrounds. Research suggests that these students underachieve in comparison to their non-deprived counterparts and this underachievement is widely referred to as 'the disadvantaged gap'. Our disadvantaged first approach to uniform ensures that disadvantaged students have access to nearly new uniform at a reduced price and uniform loans from the pastoral team.

17. Sixth form and uniform

Where members of the sixth form are judged to be dressed inappropriately, they may be asked by one of the sixth form team to amend their dress either that day or in future. In all such circumstances, the judgment of The Head of Sixth Form or Headteacher is final.

18. Uniform and learning from home

Students are not required to wear school uniform for any learning from home Microsoft Teams lessons. However students must be dressed appropriately for learning. If staff feel that a student is dressed inappropriately, they will be asked to change.

19. Roles and responsibilities

The governing board is responsible for:

- Establishing, in consultation with the headteacher and school community, a practical and smart school uniform that accurately reflects the school's vision and values.
- Ensuring that equal opportunities are considered regarding the school's uniform and that no person is discriminated against.
- Listening to the opinions and wishes of parents, students and the wider school community regarding changes to the school's uniform.
- Ensuring that the school's uniform is accessible and affordable.

Pastoral leaders are responsible for:

- Ensuring that teachers understand this policy and what to do if a student is in breach of the policy.
- Listening to the opinions and wishes of the school community in regard to the school's uniform and making appropriate recommendations to the governing board.
- Providing students with an exemption letter as appropriate, e.g. for a student who has a broken arm and requires a loose-fitting top

Teachers are responsible for:

- Enforcing the school's uniform on a day-to-day basis.
- Ensuring that students dress in accordance with this policy at all times.
- Using the language of BESt to support pride in appearance and positive choices
- Ensuring that students understand why having a consistent and practical school uniform is important, e.g. school identity.

Parents are responsible for:

- Providing their children with the correct school uniform as detailed in this policy.
- Informing the school if their child requires a more relaxed uniform policy for a period of time, including why.
- Ensuring that their child's uniform is clean, presentable and the correct size.

Students are responsible for:

- Wearing the correct uniform at all times, unless granted an exemption.
- Looking after their uniform as appropriate.
- Understanding and respecting why a school uniform is important to the school, e.g. school identity and community.

20. BESt Bishops' Expected Standards

- Wearing uniform according to this policy is one of our expected standards. Making positive choice with our appearance and being ready to learn shows pride and a sense of community.
- Form tutors and pastoral teams will monitor the uniform of students daily. If students make poor choices regarding their uniform then they will receive a community consequence.
- Pastoral leads may offer students alternative uniform to wear. If students refuse to wear items suggested this will be classed as defiance and consequences will follow according to BESt. Any loaned uniform must be returned within reasonable time frames, per agreement.
- If a student repeatedly breaches uniform rules, this will be viewed as defiance and fall within the remit of BESt.
- We understand that there may on occasion be a legitimate reason for a student being in breach of the Uniform Policy. Where this is the case we would ask the parent/carer notify the school. Pastoral leads will work with individual parents regarding this.
- The Headteacher is permitted to ask a student to briefly go home to remedy breaches of the school's Uniform Policy. When deciding whether to allow a student to return home, the school takes into account the student's age and vulnerability, the length of time it will take, and the availability of the student's parents/carers. Where a student has been sent home to rectify uniform breaches, the absence will be recorded as 'authorised'. Parents/carers are notified.

Signed by:

Headteacher

Date:

Chair of Governors

Date:

Signatures

Reviewee..... Reviewer.....