



Uniform Policy for Years 7 to 11

Date for review	April 2025
Named person responsible for monitoring	Headteacher
Agreed by Full Governing Body	April 2022

Guidance: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/school-uniform>
<https://www.gov.uk/school-uniform>
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/cost-of-school-uniforms/cost-of-school-uniforms>

Linked policies: Behaviour for learning, SEND, Equalities.

Equality statement

The Sir William Ramsay School Uniform Policy does not contain reference to gender and the uniform prescribed is designed to be worn by any/ all students regardless of gender.

Uniform ensures equality of students as appropriate in a school learning environment and therefore is not negotiable.

Overview

Uniform standards are high at Sir William Ramsay School and our uniform code is inclusive, de-gendered and smart. Parents are expected to ensure that students arrive at school in correct uniform and that on the rare occasion where for medical reasons uniform cannot be adhered to, then a note is provided clearly explains any temporary change from this code.

Parents choose our school because of its high standards so we make no excuses in enforcing this code to uphold the values we share with our parents and students in this area.

We have a strict uniform policy for the simple reason that it enables every child to attend school in an equal and fair way. By maintaining this expectation we ensure that appearance does not advantage or disadvantage any child based on fashion choice, socio-economic wealth or body shape/ size.

We strongly believe that this basic equality is a fundamental right of children in education and that this is vital to a caring and safe learning environment. For this reason we will not spend time discussing, negotiating or arguing personal views on uniform with parents.

Aims

Through our uniform and dress codes we aim to:

- encourage pride in the school and support teaching and learning
- enable students to be comfortable, safe and secure
- ensure that students of different social, religious and ethnic groups feel welcome
- encourage a sense of equality and cohesion
- protect students from social pressures to dress in a particular way.

In this way, the uniform and dress codes contribute to the overall aims and values of the school.

Value for Money

The school believes that our uniform policy and supplier should offer value for money and that the cost of uniform should never be a barrier to a child attending the school. Therefore, the school will ensure the following:

- Uniform costs and durability are balanced to ensure good value for money.
- The school has a system for collecting and storing donated uniform that is previously worn but in good condition that can be accessed by families who need this, free of charge.
- The school will help families with financial assistance, where appropriate and as needed, when cost is a barrier to their child attending school and meeting our uniform expectations. This can be discussed and agreed on a case by case basis.
- The basic school uniform only has very minimal branding and colour ranges to ensure that suitable alternatives can be found in high street stores whilst still meeting our codes.
- One uniform is suitable for the whole year and no summer/ winter uniform is required.
- No specific requirements of coats or bags other than they are suitable for school and the carrying of books/ kit.

Uniform Supplier

Our uniform supplier is SportsCrest. We re-tender our uniform supplier contract every 3 years to ensure value for money.

Uniform rules

PERMITTED

- White, collared shirt and school tie – Top buttons are to be done up at all times and ties should not be shortened.
- Navy blazer with school badge
- Plain mid-grey school trousers
- Stitched-down, pleated mid-grey skirt (Knee length, the bottom of the skirt should be closer to the knee than to the bottom of the blazer)
- Plain navy hijab
- Plain Navy v-neck jumper or cardigan
- Black leather school shoes
- Plain black or neutral tights/plain black, grey or white ankle length socks
- A sensible and appropriate coat may be worn to and from school and during break/ lunch time
- A wrist watch may be worn (some smart/ internet enabled watches cannot be worn in exams or assessments)
- Sunglasses outdoors on sunny days (expensive branded glasses worn at own risk)
- One pair of small (max 5mm) stud earrings
- One discreet nose stud

STRICTLY NOT PERMITTED

- No trainers, boots, Crocs, high heeled shoes, this includes black trainers or any shoe the school judges to be a trainer (we withhold the right to make this judgment and advice/ descriptions of appropriate school shoes from shoe retailers will not be accepted).
- No hoodies, sweatshirts or non-school jumpers are to be worn at any time.
- No knee length/ thigh length socks to be worn at any time.
- No leggings.
- No skinny Jeans, denim trousers, chinos or non- school trousers.
- No baseball caps/ hats

- No jewellery/ rings/ chains/ hoop earrings.
- No painted nails, false/acrylic nails.
- Short/ tight skirts.

If there is a medical reason why school shoes cannot be worn then a doctor's note must be brought to school by the student and the issue resolved as soon as possible. The school will consider financial support when the cost of shoes/ uniform is prohibitive to students.

PE KIT PERMITTED

- Navy/Sky PE Polo Shirt with logo
- Navy/Sky PE shorts or skort (from supplier)
- Navy/Sky Hooded PE top with logo
- Plain navy tracksuit bottoms
- Navy/Sky base layer leggings
- Sports socks
- Navy PE socks with SWR lettering
- Non-marking trainers
- Football boots
- Gum Shield
- Shin pads
- Hairbands for tying back of long hair during sport, as required.

NOT PERMITTED

- No branded sportswear or clothing
- No Hoodies.
- No thin/ transparent or "shaped" leggings.
- No fashion styled trainers that are not appropriate for sports.
- Any jewellery or personal item that could be considered dangerous or could be used as a weapon are strictly prohibited and will be confiscated.

A Common Sense Approach to Appearance

The school applies a common sense approach to general appearance. This allows us to achieve a balance in our approach to hairstyles, hair colours, piercings and application of make-up. Whilst we do not prohibit specific "styles" of appearance outside of our uniform code we reserve the right to address/ prohibit anything we feel is excessive, inappropriate or extreme.

Therefore as a general guide, the following is recommended:

- Any make-up worn should be minimal and appropriate.
- Piercings should be safe, subtle and discreet.
- Uniform should be worn appropriately and correctly without modification – for example skirts should be of a suitable length and belts should be discreet without large buckles or branding and shirts should be worn tucked in.
- Torn/ damaged items should be replaced as soon as possible.
- Items of clothing or appearance should not denote affiliation to any politically motivated group or denote extreme views and must not cause offense- this includes coats and jackets.

The school will not be responsible for the loss/ damage and incurred costs of any prohibited or sanctioned items this includes jewellery, watches, wallets, mobile phones, electronic devices

and designer items such as coats or bags. We do not recommend such items are brought into school and are only done so at the students own risk.

Enforcement of the Uniform Policy

It is the responsibility of parents/carers to ensure that their child comes to school in the correct uniform (see the Home School Agreement). Form tutors are responsible for monitoring uniform. All staff have a responsibility for ensuring that students are correctly dressed in class and elsewhere on the school site.

A student wearing non-uniform clothing will be sent to a member of the Student Support Team, where a uniform pass and break and lunchtime detention will be issued or the student will be given the appropriate item of uniform for the remainder of the day. In the event of repeated uniform infringements parents/carers will be contacted and the student will risk being sent home. In the case of non-permitted jewellery and other accessories, the student will be asked to remove the item, which will be confiscated and can only be collected by a parent/carer from the school office.

The Headteacher is the final arbiter in all matters of uniform and dress.

Issues Arising from the Policy

Parents/carers should raise any issues relating to school uniform, dress codes or other aspects of appearance with the Headteacher. Requests to vary the uniform requirements for particular reasons, such as medical needs, will always be carefully considered.

Students should raise issues with their tutor or Head of Year.

Policy Reviews

Our uniform supplier contract is tendered three yearly to take account of costs, changes to the school environment and organisation and national legislation and proposals.

The review includes consideration of uniform items, supply, cost and value for money. Parents/carers, students and staff are consulted regularly and no less frequently than every three years.

The School reserves the right not to accept the wearing of any item of clothing which is deemed to be inappropriate in terms of the stated uniform list.