

# Berwick Middle School Uniform Policy



<b>Date agreed by Governors</b>	<b>DEC 2012</b>
<b>Date of review</b> <b>Next review due</b>	<b>NOV 2017</b> <b>NOV 2019</b>
<b>Responsible officer</b>	<b>Clare Shaw</b>

The Governing Body at BMS have formulated the following policy on uniform which will encourage pupils to dress in a way which is appropriate to their health, well-being, safety and attendance at school. This follows from the Governing Body's general responsibility for the conduct of the school and for the promotion of teaching, learning, good behaviour and discipline on the part of its pupils (see sections 38 and 61 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998)

The advantages of pupils conforming to such a code of appropriate school dress include:

- The encouragement of a purposeful attitude to work and positive behaviour
- The promotion of a positive school ethos and a sense of identification with, and loyalty to, the school
- Improved security by being able to identify young people within the school and on school excursions
- A reduction in bullying and victimisation which can arise from peer pressure to adhere to certain fashion trends
- Raising young people's awareness of the requirement to dress appropriately for the circumstances e.g. certain work requirements, interviews etc
- The creation of a positive image in the local community
- Assisting parents/carers in terms of economic and practical issues

Whilst pupils must adhere to the uniform policy we are sensitive to the needs of different cultures, races and religions. Parents/carers can apply in writing to the Headteacher if they wish their child(ren) to wear different items for any of these reasons.

The following uniform policy has been agreed taking into consideration the following factors, that is, items which cannot be worn are ones which:

- could potentially cause factions or offence;
- could affect health, safety and welfare;
- could cause damage to the flooring.

The general guideline is that 'dress' is unacceptable if it could disrupt teaching and learning i.e. the normal operation of the school.

## BMS Uniform Policy

All items of clothing must be labelled with the child's name.

### Regulation Items:

#### Girls:

- Black tailored skirt not more than 8cm above the knee, no splits or decorations, which will not compromise the student's dignity; or black tailored trousers.
- White formal collared shirt
- School tie – tied to cover fastened top button at shirt collar
- Blue v-neck sweatshirt with the school badge
- Plain white traditional ankle socks or black tights. No decoration
- Plain black formal shoes with less than 5cm heels. Stiletto heels are not allowed.

#### Optional Summer Wear

- White polo shirt, with the school badge, available from school

#### Boys:

- Formal black tailored trousers
- Formal white collared shirt
- School tie – tied to cover fastened top button at shirt collar
- Blue v-neck sweatshirt with the school badge
- Plain black or grey socks. No decoration.
- Formal plain black shoes. Not black trainers

#### Optional Summer Wear

- White polo shirt, with school badge, available from school

At times of extreme heat students may remove their sweatshirt. However, they must be worn normally when travelling to and from school, on school trips and when walking around the school site. After Easter pupils may wear the white polo type shirts, with the school badge, as optional summer top until summer holidays. There may be days of special occasion where pupils will be specifically requested to wear collar, tie and sweatshirt.

### PE Uniform:

#### Girls:

- School games top (rugby and/or PE top) royal blue and white
- Black shorts
- Black skirt (optional)
- Royal blue knee socks
- White ankle socks (summer)
- Football/rugby/hockey boots for outdoor games
- Suitable sports trainers (not fashion plimsoles, converse or high tops etc)
- Shin pads and gum shield
- Navy track pants with school logo (optional)
- Royal Hoodie with school logo and house (optional)
- Base Layer – plain blue or black – recommended in cold weather (optional)
- Towel (optional)

## Boys:

- School games top (rugby and/or PE top) royal blue and white
- Black shorts
- Royal blue knee socks
- White sports socks (summer)
- Football/rugby/hockey boots for outdoor games
- Suitable sports trainers (not fashion plimsoles, converse or high tops etc)
- Shin pads and gum shield
- Navy track pants with school logo (optional)
- Royal Hoodie with school logo and house (optional)
- Base Layer – plain blue or black – recommended in cold weather (optional)
- Towel (optional)

## Jewellery

Students may wear a watch but no other jewellery is permitted. If parents/carers and students wish to arrange a piercing, this must be done at the start of the summer holidays so that the wound has sufficient time to heal. In the interest of health, safety and personal welfare the Headteacher will review the situation with the parents/carers in the best interests of the child.

## Hair Styles

Hair styles must be neat, tidy and in a formal style. Parents/carers should always consult, in advance, with the Headteacher if they are unsure as to the suitability of a change of style. Hair styling products, hair dye/colour, shaved hair or shapes/tram lines shaved into hair are not permitted. Long hair must be tied back during some lessons such as PE, DT, Science etc

## Makeup

Make-up, fake tan and nail varnish are not permitted.

## Mobile Phones

Mobile phones, MP3 players, 'iTechnology' or any wifi enabled device are not permitted in school.

## Non Uniform Days

Parents/carers and pupils must be aware of that particular day's timetable i.e. PE, Science, Technology and adapt accordingly the non uniform attire to what is appropriate.

## Financial Hardship

In cases of financial hardship parents/carers can appeal to the Headteacher for support. Such cases will be treated with due sensitivity and in confidence.

#### BMS strategy to support pupils:

- Pupils will be reminded regularly of the pupil dress code;
- If a pupil has difficulty in meeting the policy on any day, they must bring a note from home explaining the difficulty;
- Any pupil attending school not adhering to the school dress code and without a note from home, will be spoken to at school by a member of staff and parents/carers notified via the school planner which the parent/carer is expected to sign;
- Parents/carers will be contacted by letter or phone to discuss persistent breaches of the school dress code and a solution focussed meeting will be arranged.

#### BMS strategy to support parents/carers:

- Parents/carers will receive a copy of the pupil dress code annually;
- Any parent who has difficulty in supporting this policy should write to the school and a solution focussed meeting will be arranged.
- Parents/carers are informed that if pupils disregard this policy they may be isolated from other pupils until they comply with the regulation.

In general it would not be our policy to exclude a child solely on the basis of his/her dress but persistent refusal to follow our agreed uniform policy would be deemed a serious challenge to the school and be detrimental to the wellbeing of our school community. Failure to follow the dress code may also form part of a pattern of persistent defiant behaviour and will be dealt with through the school's Behaviour and Discipline Policy. If a pupil's appearance is likely to disrupt the learning, conduct or safety of other pupils that pupil may be removed from their class until the matter has been resolved. In such circumstances, the pupil will be internally excluded for half a day following the school's Discipline Chain, which could lead the Headteacher to use of the Local Authority exclusion policy. Every effort will be made to contact a parent/carer of the child immediately and explain the reason for the exclusion. At this time the parents/carers may be requested to collect their child from school until they comply with the regulation. This policy has been adopted to support parents/carers in making decisions regarding appropriate dress and therefore any breach may result in school discipline procedures.