GENERAL UNIFORM MATTERS - All students in Years 7 to 11

The documentation is meant to give clear guidance to parents to assist them when making purchases. However, there is also a "spirit" to the uniform requirements, which is much more difficult to convey on paper. Hence, there is also an attempt to explain how the uniform is to be worn. Experience tells us that skirts, shoes, make-up, hairstyle and jewellery are the most common causes of conflict between students and staff. Hopefully, the uniform list will enable parents to anticipate where choice of hairstyle or skirt length, for example, would be inappropriate.

Suppliers:

Uniform items are available from Stevensons in Victoria Street at https://www.stevensons.co.uk/, or from Beat School Uniforms in Watford or Harpenden at www.beatschooluniforms.co.uk. Many standard items are also available from the chain stores such as John Lewis, Marks & Spencer and so on. The BSA operates a second-hand uniform shop. Please contact the school office for details of opening times.

Variations:

It is occasionally necessary, for protected characteristics reasons such as gender, medical or religious reasons, for permission to be given for other items to be worn. In such cases, all reasonable requests will be considered. Please contact the appropriate Head of Year.

Naming of Clothing:

Parents/carers/guardians are strongly advised to ensure that all articles are clearly marked with the student's name. There is a lost property system, but the number of unmarked (and therefore unclaimed) items remains high.

Jewellery:

Students may wear **one small plain gold or silver stud in the lower lobe of each ear** and may also wear a wristwatch. No other jewellery is allowed.

If students choose to have facial piercings elsewhere (eg tongue, nose, eyebrow or other parts of the ear) then they must ensure that they plan this with sufficient time to ensure that the piercing has healed enough to remove the jewellery before coming into school. It is not acceptable to wear a plastic retainer in the piercing nor to have it covered with a plaster. The recommended healing time seems to vary from 2-6 weeks depending on the nature of the piercing and parents and students are advised to check this before going ahead.

Jewellery which does not comply with the uniform policy will be confiscated and retained until the end of a half-term. If a student is unable to remove jewellery themselves due to a very recent piercing, they will be isolated from lessons until such time as it has been removed professionally.

Make-up:

The use of make-up is not acceptable in Years 7- 9. Discreet facial make-up is allowed in Years 10 and 11, **but lipstick, false eyelashes and false or coloured nail-varnish are not acceptable**.

Hairstyle:

Unusual or exaggerated hairstyles are not acceptable. This includes, for example, two-tone styles, 'artificial' colours and shaved or partially shaved styles, including lines and patterns. Students are permitted to have a 'fade' but it must not start at less than a 1. If in doubt, parents or students should consult the Head of Year before changing to a style that may bring the student into conflict with this rule.

Uniform card:

Students are expected to comply fully with uniform requirements and to be smart at all times. All students are issued with a uniform card at the start of each half-term which will be signed by staff if students break the uniform rules. Students will be issued a detention if they gain three signatures in a half-term or if they lose their card.

Cyclists:

We would advise all students cycling to school to wear an appropriate safety helmet. They may wear any amount of additional plain reflective material.