


Mark Rutherford School



Uniform Policy

Author:	K. Foster
Governor's Committee:	Curriculum and Standards
Adopted by the Governing Body on:	
Signed (Chair of Committee):	<i>J. Warehand</i>
Signed (Acting Headteacher):	
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POLICY AIMS

At Mark Rutherford School (MRS) we have high expectations of all, in everything we do. This includes personal appearance. Uniform plays an important role in establishing the ethos of a school and at MRS we believe that our uniform policy benefits the school in a number of ways:

- It encourages identity with the school and nurtures the notion of community.
- It protects students from social pressures to dress in a particular way.
- It supports discipline and good behaviour and ensures the health and safety of students.
- It instils a sense of pride in the school.
- It promotes more effective teaching and learning.

We have carefully considered and analysed the impact of this policy on equality and the possible implications for pupils with protected characteristics, as part of our commitment to meet the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) requirement to have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations.

Due to the changing trends/fashions we reserve the right as a school to identify throughout the year when uniform worn is deemed inappropriate and sanction appropriately in line with our Behaviour for Learning policy.

If there are any difficulties with purchasing items of uniform, parents/carers should make contact with their child's Head of Year, so that the school can support the family finding a solution.

Student Responsibility:

- We expect students at MRS to adhere to our school uniform policy.
- To recognise that it is the public face of MRS and that it should be worn correctly and with pride, including when they arrive and leave the school.
- To appreciate that uniform infringements will result in a verbal reminder and continued non-compliance will result in a sanction.
- Items of clothing that do not follow the uniform policy may be confiscated and replaced with spare school uniform items.

Parent/Carer Responsibility:

- We welcome parent/carers support in the purchase of items of clothing that follow our uniform policy.
- To ensure all items of clothing are clearly marked with your child's name.
- That the school is informed if there is a problem concerning uniform.
- To remind their child, as they leave home, of the uniform policy and ensure they are adhering to this.
- To email the Tutor, Head of Year or Assistant Head of Year about any uniform infringements for medical reasons so that they can notify teachers and put a note on Class Charts.

Tutor Responsibility:

- To ensure that all students leave tutor bases appropriately dressed for the day.
- To confiscate items which do not conform to the school's uniform policy. Such items will be placed in the tutor group's safe until the end of the school day.
- To make contact with parents/carers where there have been issues identified with uniform.

- To report continued non-compliance with uniform policy is reported to the Head of Year.

Class/Subject Teacher responsibilities:

- To ensure students arrive and enter your classroom appropriately dressed.
- To ensure that students leave your classroom appropriately dressed.
- To check that students with uniform infringements have a note on Class Charts.
- To check that students incorrectly dressed/without a note are reported to the Tutor.

All Staff Responsibilities:

- To regularly speak to students when their uniform is not as it should be around school.
- To remind and encourage students to wear our school uniform correctly.
- To confiscate items that do not comply with the MRS uniform policy and ensure they are handed in to main reception for safe storage in the safe.
- To report non-compliance to the form tutor and Head of Year.

Pastoral Responsibilities:

- To speak to students in their year group about the expectations for standards of uniform; this may be done through assembly.
- To challenge students who do not adhere to our uniform policy.
- To contact parents/carer if there is non-compliance about uniform.
- To offer the student spare uniform if they don't have the correct items of uniform.
- To send the student home to find/collect the correct item of uniform, where appropriate.
- To support the student if there is financial hardship that prevents the student from following our uniform policy.
- To issue sanctions for non-compliance with our uniform policy.
- To support the form tutor in the enforcement of our uniform policy.

Senior Leadership Team's Responsibilities:

- To support staff in the implementation of the school's uniform policy.
- To challenge students who dress inappropriately and issue an appropriate sanction for non-compliance.

ADDITIONAL IMPORTANT INFORMATION

MRS will carefully consider any request that is made to vary the policy to meet the needs of an individual student. This may be to accommodate their religious belief or any temporary or permanent medical conditions, in order to avoid breaches of disability discrimination legislation.

The Headteacher or person authorised by the Headteacher has the right to send a student home, briefly and where appropriate, to put on the correct uniform or otherwise adjust their appearance in line with the school's uniform policy. The school must first inform the student's parents/carers and consider factors such as the student's age, vulnerability, availability of the parent/carer and how easily the breach can be remedied. When this is done it will constitute as authorised absence.

In the first instance, we will offer spare uniform items (including shoes) to any student who does not have the correct uniform. All items are cleaned regularly and shoes will be disinfected after each use. If

a student does not have a medical reason or specific individual needs, refuses to wear the spare uniform or refuses to go home to change, or commits uniform offences (even where they do not otherwise display poor behaviour), the school has the right to sanction the student. Some examples of acceptable sanctions include;

- Detention.
- Internal Exclusion.
- Suspension (this will happen where the breaches of the school's uniform policy are persistent and defiant).

The school reserves the right to confiscate items of clothing or jewellery that do not fall within our uniform policy as per the DfE's '[Searching, screening and confiscation: Advice for schools](#)' document (July 2022).

SCHOOL UNIFORM – MARK RUTHERFORD SCHOOL

Parent/carer support in taking responsibility for their child(ren) attending in correct uniform is essential. Our uniform is BLACK in colour. Many items can be bought at chain or high street stores in the town centre, online and also our uniform suppliers (see page 7).

Students' Uniform

Students are required to wear a plain black skirt which is of an appropriate length and close to the knee - this cannot be lycra or contour in style. Parents/carers are advised to ensure their child's skirt fits on the hips to ensure it is not too short. Please see the images below of skirts that are deemed appropriate, as a guide.




Students can either wear plain black opaque tights or plain non-branded black or white ankle socks.

Plain black trousers are also deemed appropriate. These cannot be jeans, leggings, jeggings, cropped, jogging bottoms or cargo style.

In the summer term students are permitted to wear smart black tailored shorts.

The table below outlines the mandatory items for all students.

Item	Requirement/Expectations
Sky blue polo shirt with blue school crest (*)	To be worn all year round.
Black V-neck jumper with the school crest (*)	Jumpers must be worn traveling to and from school and between lessons. The jumper is compulsory from September to Easter unless the school emails parents/ carers in the event of warm weather.
Black shoes	<p>These must be suitable for school (trainers may only be worn for PE), no plimsolls or trainers that look like shoes are permitted.</p> 
Outdoor coat	We would expect all students to wear a coat outside when the weather is cold. These do not need to be purchased from our suppliers. No hoodies, sports sweatshirts or zipped sports tops are to be brought on to and/or worn on the school site.

(*) This indicates items of uniform that must be purchased from school uniform suppliers (please see page 7).

Makeup and Nail Varnish

Makeup and nail varnish may be worn for school but it must be discrete and in keeping with a working environment.

Nail Length

Nails must be of a practical length to comply with health and safety regulations. False or acrylic nails are not permitted to be worn in school.

Jewellery

Students may wear a watch and a small pair of stud earrings. Students will be asked to remove earrings which hang below the ear. A necklace may be worn provided it is tucked inside of the shirt. Students are permitted to wear one small stud nose piercing. Other facial piercings and tattoos are not permitted. Other items of jewellery are not permitted when in school. Students will be asked to remove jewellery that breaks this rule. All jewellery must be removed for PE.

Hairstyles

Students' hairstyles should be neat and practical for school and should be a natural hair colour. Extremes of style, patterns and tracks will not be permitted. This includes complete shaving of one side of hair and dip dyeing the hair.

Headwear

Students may wear a head covering for religious observance. Headwear worn in school for religious observance must be in either black or navy. Students may wear a plain black headband. Students are not permitted to wear hats, caps or any other head coverings inside the school building.

Physical Education Uniform

The items listed below are required for Physical Education lessons. These can be purchased from our two suppliers listed in this policy. There are two outer top options (rugby sports top or black ¼ zip top). Only one of these is required so we would recommend the choice of the rugby sports top if your child intends to play rugby at our school.

Boys PE

- Rugby outdoor sports top with logo (*)
- Black ¼ zip outdoor top with logo (*)
- Black shorts
- Long plain black socks
- PE polo shirt (black with school logo) (*)
- Plain black tracksuit bottoms (optional)

Girls PE

- Rugby outdoor sports top with logo (*)
- Black ¼ zip outdoor top with logo (*)
- Black shorts
- Long plain black socks
- PE polo shirt (black with school logo) (*)
- Plain black tracksuit bottoms (optional)
- Sports leggings with the school logo (*) or black opaque leggings (both optional)

Studded boots with rubber studs are a compulsory piece of kit for all students in order to be able to access our 3G pitch.

All students must remove watches and jewellery for PE lessons, extra-curricular sport and fixtures to comply with health and safety regulations from the AfPE (Association for Physical Education). Watches must be clearly marked with owner's initials.

Small lockers are available for valuables within the PE changing rooms, students must provide their own padlock for these.

(*) This indicates items of uniform that must be purchased from school uniform suppliers (please see page 7).

SCHOOL UNIFORM SUPPLIERS

Please find outlined below our uniform suppliers for mandatory branded items.

Bedford Town Centre	Online
<p>Website: http://www.josens-schoolwear.co.uk</p> <p>Address: Josens 25 Harpur Street Bedford MK40 1LA</p> <p>Telephone Number: 01234 359191</p> <p>Email: Info@josens.com</p>	<p>Website: www.yourschooluniform.com</p> <p>Address: Your School Uniform Limited Hubaco House Railway View Clay Cross Derbyshire</p> <p>Telephone Number: 01773 837377</p> <p>Email: sales@yourschooluniform.com</p>

YEAR 12 AND 13 DRESS CODE

Detailed here is the dress code for the Sixth Form. It is important that students are dressed appropriately for a teaching and learning environment as well as setting the right example to the rest of the students in the school.

Approved	Boys	Girls
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Tailored and smart trousers. ▪ Smart tailored shorts (summer term only). ▪ Stiff collared shirt. ▪ Waistcoat. ▪ Tailored/suit jacket. ▪ Tie (optional but preferred). ▪ Jumper (round or V neck) or cardigan. ▪ Smart shoes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Tailored and smart: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Knee length skirt; - Trousers, or; - Dress. ▪ Smart tailored shorts (summer term only). ▪ Shirt or blouse. ▪ Plain fitted top. ▪ Tailored/suit jacket. ▪ Jumper (round or V neck) or cardigan. ▪ Smart shoes. ▪ Fine or opaque tights.

Not Approved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Loose fitting/casual clothing (including combat style). ▪ Jogging bottoms. ▪ Smart/sport/surf style shorts. ▪ Ugg boots. ▪ Lycra clothing. ▪ Body-con style clothing. ▪ Vest/strapless tops. ▪ Leggings. ▪ Hooded tops. ▪ Sweatshirts/tops. ▪ Trainers/trainer style shoes. ▪ Flip flops. ▪ Pumps/plimsoll style footwear/boots. ▪ Denim/denim style clothing. ▪ Hats/caps. ▪ No logos/emblems on clothing.
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Other:

- No visible tattoos.
- No visible piercings except in the ears or a small nose stud. Earrings should be discreet. Students who have visible piercings elsewhere will be requested to remove the stud or hoop and give to their Tutor for collection at the end of the day in the first instance.
- Make-up should be suitable for a working business environment.
- For PE and practical dance lessons students must bring appropriate clothing to change into.
- The Assistant Headteacher: Director of Sixth Form has the final decision regarding what is and is not suitable attire for the Sixth Form. The school reserves the right to send home any student who is not properly dressed where he/she should change to meet the requirements of this published dress code and then return to school the same day to resume his/her studies.
- Persistent disregard for this code of dress will result in further action being taken.
- We retain the right to act as the final authority in the interpretation of the dress code. If you are unsure, parents/carers and students are advised to contact the Sixth Form Team clarification before purchasing an item.