**ABBEYFIELD SCHOOL**

**UNIFORM POLICY**

It is our school policy that all children wear school uniform when attending school, representing the school, or when participating in a school-organised event outside normal school hours. Our policy is based on the notion that school uniform:

* promotes a sense of pride and professionalism across our school community;
* engenders a sense of community and belonging towards the school;
* is practical and smart: “smart” dress equals “smart” thinking and “smart” learning;
* identifies the children with the school;
* prevents children from coming to school in fashion clothes that could be distracting from learning;
* welcomes all equally regardless of background and culture;
* is regarded as suitable wear for school and good value for money by parents;
* is designed with health and safety in mind.

Abbeyfield School aims to ensure that the school’s uniform and Sixth Form dress code does not discriminate unlawfully on the grounds of gender, disability, culture, race, sexual orientation, religion or belief, by accommodating these needs within its policy.

As a school, we are extremely proud of how smart the students look when wearing our uniform and we continually review with our main supplier, Price & Buckland, to ensure that the essential items are able to be provided of excellent quality for a reasonable price.

**Scope and Statutory Requirements**

Abbeyfield School aims to ensure that the school pays proper and due regard to its equal opportunities responsibilities under the Sex Discrimination Act 1975, the Human Rights Act 1998, the Race Relations Act 1976 and the Equality Act 2010.

Specifically we:

* Ensure that the school assesses the impact of its uniform with regard to the requirements outlined in the 2010 Equality Act. This means that the school is sensitive to the needs of different cultures, races and religions and that the school will continue to accommodate those needs.
* Ensure that our policy does not discriminate, e.g. by gender, for example, allowing all students to wear trousers and being culturally sensitive to different hair types, styles and headwear.
* Provide a uniform, which is comfortable and durable.
* Ensure that the clothes, footwear or jewellery students wear to school do not present a health and safety risk.
* Ensure our uniform is recognised in the local community and is worn in a manner that reflects the school’s ethos and expectations.
* Ensure that personal appearance is a holistic part of our overall uniform policy.
* Ensure that the cost of uniform does not discourage parents on low income from applying for a place at the school.
* Will be sensitive and flexible in relation to uniform to meet the needs of a student who is undergoing gender reassignment.
* Ensures that the school is able to be fully sensitive to the needs of transitioning students and all aspects of sexual orientation.

This policy is regularly reviewed, alongside the Department for Education guidance on school uniforms.

**Uniform list**

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| Item | Required | Additional Guidance | Purchased from |
| Trousers | Black, smart, standard school trousers | * Trousers must be full length * No jeans, chinos, leggings or combats allowed. | High street |
| Skirt | Black plain pleated/skater skirt.  Should be below fingertip length when arms are at the side of the legs. | * Skirts should not be rolled up. * Black opaque tights should be worn with skirts | High street |
| Shirt | White shirt – can be short or long sleeved. Completely plain buttoned formal shirt | * No polo shirts * No branded shirts with logos | High street |
| Socks / Tights | Black or white socks.  Black opaque tights to be worn with a skirt. | * White socks must not be worn with tights | High street |
| House school tie | Black with thin white/ house colour stripes | * Tie must be tied in conventional manner with logo below the knot. | Price & Buckland |
| Blazer  (Optional) | School blazer with Abbeyfield logo on pocket |  | Price & Buckland |
| School jumper  (Optional) | A plain black v neck jumper, with logo.  *Sept 23 – Aug 24*  *A plain black v-neck jumper is allowed.* | * This can be worn instead of the blazer or underneath the blazer. | Price & Buckland  High street |
| Shoes | Black sensible strong shoes. | * Shoes must be entirely black. * No trainers, sandals, boots or canvas shoes allowed. | High street |
| Outdoor coats | Lightweight and waterproof.  Winter coats should enable children to be seen on dark evenings. | * Hoodies, denim/leather jackets, sweatshirts, training tops or cardigans are not allowed as substitutes for coats. | High street |
| Jewellery | Wristwatch is permitted  Small plain studs are permitted | * Nose rings and other forms of body piercing are not allowed. | N/A |
| Hair styles | Extreme hair styles are not allowed. |  | N/A |
| Make up | Make up should be discreet. | * False nails, visible make up and nail varnish are not allowed. | N/A |

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| ***Physical Education kit*** | |  |
|  | | ***Purchased from*** |
| \* = either or both. | Navy Blue with sky blue trim shorts (with logo)\*  Sky Blue skort (with logo)\*  Sky Blue school outdoor long sleeved shirt\*  Sky Blue school indoor short sleeved shirt\*  Navy sports socks with or without school logo  Trainers (non-marking soles)  **Highly recommended other items**  Mouthguard and shin pads (*safety*)  Football boots  ***Additional optional items –*** *all of the items below can be replaced by plain navy-blue versions.*  Sky Blue Cold Weather long sleeved jumper with Abbeyfield Logo  Navy-blue Hoodie with Abbeyfield Logo  Navy-blue Tracksuit Bottoms with Abbeyfield Logo  Navy-blue leggings with Abbeyfield logo | Price & Buckland  High Street  High Street  Price & Buckland |

All uniform **must** be labelled with the child’s name.

The governors expect that any parents accepting a place for their child at Abbeyfield School will conform to the school uniform policy.

**Parental support**

To further support the reduction in cost to parents for the provision of the school uniform a parent has established a ‘Pre-loved uniform’ site where parents can purchase second hand uniform directly from each other. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/870604210548683>

Please note that this **is not** managed by Abbeyfield School.

Non-Uniform Days

The Headteacher agrees a number of days each year on which students are not required to wear their normal uniform. These are often called ‘mufti’ days. The purpose of this is to raise money for charities as decided by the Student Council and students pay a small sum for the privilege.

On these occasions only, students are permitted to wear their own clothes. However, they must dress in a manner which does not distract from their learning and ensures their health and safety. Senior staff will make a judgement on the appropriateness of outfits and students will be sent home to change if they deem their dress inappropriate for a school setting.

Sixth Form Dress Code

Sixth form students are expected to dress appropriately for study. The manner in which they present themselves should reflect the fact that they are in school to learn and that they are a role model to younger students. It is not appropriate for students to dress provocatively, nor to the extremes of fashion. They should not have excessive piercings, body art or midriffs visible.

In all cases where a student is unsure about the application of these rules they may consult the Head of 6th Form.

**General Points:**

* Religious / cultural headwear may be worn, provided that health and safety considerations are taken into account where appropriate.
* If jewellery is worn that is not allowed, it will be asked to be removed. If this becomes a persistent issue then it will be confiscated and a parent will be asked to collect. Students will be asked to wash off make up and remove nail varnish.
* Mouth guards are highly recommended for rugby and hockey and shin pads are highly recommended for football and hockey. Students will not be permitted to participate in matches without these required protective items.
* Items of PE kit which have been laundered by the school may be available for students to borrow if they forget their kit.
* All parents are responsible for ensuring that their child/children arrive in school wearing the approved school uniform.
* Any changes, temporary or permanent, to this policy will be notified to parents in writing.
* This policy will be reviewed biennially.