

UNIFORM & APPEARANCE POLICY

Non Sibi Sed Aliis

Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.
Psalm 119, vs 105

"Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony." **Colossians 3: 12-14**

This policy document and the content contained therein remains the responsibility of the Headteacher and Governing Body of the school. No amendments can be made without their express instructions and they remain the final arbiters in any matters relating to it.

Review Date: Spring Term 2025

Next Review Date: Spring Term 2026

Reviewed By: Mrs A Wilson

APPROVED BY THE HEADTEACHER – Spring Term 2025

UNIFORM SUMMARY

Girls' Uniform
Black blazer with school badge (see stockist details on page 3)
Black and silver knee length kilt to be worn at knee length not rolled up. (see stockist details on page 3)
Plain black straight legged trousers (not cord, denim, skin tight in style, skinny jeans or leggings, see stockist details on page 3)
Plain black v-neck sweater (not sweatshirt or cardigan)
Plain white blouse tucked in
Clip on school tie (see stockist details on page 3)
Plain black or white socks (not over the knee socks, frilly, lacy or with ribbons)
Plain black tights or nylon tights—no patterns / holes – 60/70 denier opaque
Plain black shoes—leather or leather style (NOT any of the following: boots, high heels, canvas shoes, plimsolls, trainers, trainer style, adornments) – PLEASE SEE EXAMPLES ON LAST PAGE NO BOOTS OF ANY KIND – including those that sit on the ankle
No caps or hats
Plain black or navy outdoor coat or jacket (not denim or leather—no logo, no hoodies)

Boys' Uniform
Black blazer with school badge (see stockist details on page 3)
Plain black trousers (not cord, denim or skin tight in style or skinny jeans) (see stockist details on page 3)
Plain black v-neck sweater (not sweatshirt or cardigan)
Plain white shirt tucked in
Clip on school tie (see stockist details on page 3)
Grey, black or white socks
Plain black shoes with a heel—leather or leather style. Not brown or blue in colour and no white trims. No sports logos or trainers (not any of the following: Vans, Nike, Adidas, Converse, any other sports make, canvas or plimsolls). NO BOOTS OF ANY KIND (not Timberland, Rockport, Firetrap, Kickers) PLEASE SEE EXAMPLES ON LAST PAGE
No caps or hats
Plain black or navy outdoor jacket or coat (not denim or leather—no logo, no hoodies)

Girls' PE Kit
Akoa black and white short sleeve sports top (with school logo) (see stockist details on page 3)
Akoa black sports leggings (with school logo) OR unisex plain Akoa black shorts (see stockist details on page 3)
Games socks black with white tops
Non marking trainers
Mouth guards (gum shields) and shin pads are compulsory for rugby and hockey and shin pads are compulsory for football
The following item is optional: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Akoa (Balshaw's branded) black & white mid layer top can also be purchased to be worn by both boys and girls in the cold weather, although this is not an essential requirement of the PE kit

Boys' PE Kit
Akoa black and white short sleeve sports top (with school logo) (see stockist details on page 3)
Akoa black and white rugby top (with school logo) (see stockist details on page 3)
Two pairs of Akoa plain black shorts or unbranded plain black shorts (see stockist details on page 3)
Two pairs of plain black football socks with three narrow white stripes
Non marking trainers
Football boots—plastic studs / blades only so they can also be used on 3G pitch. Metal studs will not be allowed
Mouth guards (gum shields) and shin pads are compulsory for rugby and hockey and shin pads are compulsory for football
The following items are optional: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Akoa (Balshaw's branded) black & white mid layer top can also be purchased to be worn by both boys and girls in the cold weather, although this is not an essential requirement of the PE kit Akoa boys' track pants (with school logo). (see stockist details on page 3 for all of the above)

Please Note
All possessions should be clearly marked with owner's name
Trainer laces should be tightly tied on top for safety reasons—not tucked in
Watches need to be removed for PE for safety reasons and must be handed in with other valuables to staff for safe keeping during the lesson

GENERAL PRINCIPLES:

Balshaw's Church of England High School insists on high standards of uniform. We are aware of the financial implications and pressures that families have around uniform. There have been times when we have needed to adjust our policy, for example for cultural or ethnic reasons and these are dealt with on an individual basis. The school ensures that the cost of uniform is affordable and that a supply of nearly-new and high-quality second-hand uniforms are available to parents/carers to purchase.

It is important that students take pride in their appearance and are aware of the impression their appearance makes within the community. We are aware that students may tell you that they can wear certain items, e.g. hoodies or trainers and that teachers say that is OK and that 'everyone does this'. Please always refer to this policy for details and if there are any doubts please contact school before making a purchase.

Balshaw's Church of England High School seeks to promote a sense of belonging and shared identity through the implementation of its uniform policy.

- **Without exception the Headteacher** will be the arbiter in all matters relating to uniform, dress and appearance
- Parents, Carers and Students are advised to consult the Deputy Headteacher (Pastoral Care, Guidance and Support), or a member of the School Leadership Team, if they are considering uniform, dress, hair or appearance changes that might conflict with the school policy. Any contravention of the school's uniform and appearance policy will necessitate parents/carers being contacted and students being isolated until rectified.
- Any student who arrives out of uniform; in unsuitable uniform; wearing inappropriate jewellery; or with an unsuitable hairstyle or hair colour may be removed from lessons and their parent/carer contacted. Items of spare uniform including shoes may be loaned to a child if they arrive without the correct uniform. A record will be made in a student's file. If a student persistently ignores the uniform code, the school will need to employ further sanctions
- It is important to us that ALL students "aim at excellence" in every area of school life. We have a uniform code that encourages all students to take pride in their appearance and wear their uniform correctly as part of the Balshaw's community
- It is our policy to maintain high standards of uniform, dress and appearance. Students not wearing full uniform will be offered spare items from school if available. If students refuse or items are not available, students will be placed in inclusion until the uniform or appearance issue is rectified

Please ensure that:

- ✓ For health and safety reasons **NO** jewellery other than a wrist watch is to be worn
- ✓ Should students wish to have piercings this should be done at the beginning of the summer holiday so that they do not wear them in school for **ANY** reason at **ANY** time. This includes tongue piercings which cannot be seen
- ✓ No make-up is worn for school or false eyelashes, over emphasised eyebrows, acrylic nails, gel nails, nail varnish or false tan
- ✓ Your child has no extreme haircuts e.g. un-natural coloured hair, dyeing, dip-dyeing, bleaching or shaving (less than grade 2), tram lines or artistic designs. Hair longer than shoulder length should be worn tied back (boys and girls) and must not cover a student's eyes or face
- ✓ Belts, hair bands, ribbons and bobbles must be plain black
- ✓ Trainers or boots are **NOT** worn to school
- ✓ No temporary or permanent body art is permitted

- ✓ School bags only which must be big enough to hold files and large A4 exercise books (satchels and rucksacks preferred). **No handbags or small fashion style bags permitted. If a child arrives with an unsuitable bag they will be expected to replace it for one more appropriate**

If parents/carers are unsure, **we strongly advise** them to contact the Pastoral Team in the first instance. It is our policy to maintain a high standard of dress. Students not wearing full uniform will be offered spare items from school if available. If not available students will be placed in Inclusion until the uniform is addressed. School reserves the right to provide students with regulation items if non regulation uniform is worn. School should be informed of any reason why a student is unable to comply with the uniform rules on that day.

Outdoor coats are not to be worn inside the school and must be kept in bags or lockers. Parents/Carers are asked to buy only blue or black outdoor coats. Trainers are only acceptable for PE. Caps, hoodies and denim jackets are not allowed on school premises.

WHERE CAN I PURCHASE SCHOOL UNIFORM?

Uniform and PE Kit Stockists:

Blazers, ties, Akoa PE kit, badges and other uniform items are available from:

- | | | |
|----------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|
| • Nu Uniforms | 82 Market Street, Chorley | Tel: 01257 275512 |
| • Impressions | 250 Leyland Lane, Leyland | Tel: 01772 431431 |

Recommended shoe stockist:

- **Paces and Laces** 5 Towngate, Leyland PR25 2EN Tel: 01772 623777

Supermarkets:

We also recommend your local superstore for inexpensive and hardwearing items of school uniform. School shirts, black blazers, plain black straight legged trousers, plain black v-neck sweaters etc are all available in supermarkets.

Balshaw's High School:

The school provides a wide range of nearly-new and pre-loved uniform in excellent condition that is available for purchase at extremely low prices.

UNIFORM EXAMPLES

Please see the examples below of our smart uniform showing our expected standards



HAIRSTYLES AND COLOURING

Parents/Carers should be aware that we do not permit extremes of fashion in students' hairstyles.

- Added hair colours must be natural and subtle (bright colours including shades of red, purple and dip-dyeing, are not permitted).
- Hair braiding is only acceptable without beads or accessories.
- Close shaved heads, tram lines and patterns cut into hair or eyebrows are not acceptable.
- Very short hairstyles or extreme hairstyles e.g. shaved/short hair on one side and longer on the other are not acceptable.
- Students who have shoulder length hair, or longer, are required to tie it back for health and safety reasons and/or if it obscures the face. This applies to both male and female students.
- No large bows, clips or hair adornments

JEWELLERY, MAKE-UP AND VALUABLES

- Make-up and false tan is not acceptable. Jewellery must be limited to a watch. Health and Safety and security considerations mean that other items of jewellery are **not** permissible.
- Watches should be removed for practical lessons when necessary or any lesson where they may pose a danger. Individual subject teachers will make the decision. Students found wearing jewellery will have it confiscated and only returned at the end of term or if collected by a parent/carers.
- **No facial or body piercings** are permitted for Health and Safety reasons. The school will temporarily confiscate inappropriate items of jewellery and valuables. Plastic spacers or see through ear or nose studs used to keep the piercing open are not permitted.
- **Mobile phones, i-watches, tablets etc.**
Students must not bring these items into school. If they are brought into school and seen by staff they will be confiscated and only returned when a parent/carers comes to collect them (see mobile phone/i-watch policy). If a parent/carers cannot collect the item on the same day it will be held securely in school until the end of the following school day at 3:10pm and then returned to the student.

The school cannot accept any responsibility for the loss of valuables.

If a student persistently ignores these rules the school will employ further sanctions. Please also see The Behaviour for Learning Policy www.balshaws.org.uk/parents-portal/school-policies.

The Headteacher will be the final arbiter regarding suitability of dress and appearance.

BOOKING SLIPS AND BOOKING SLIP DETENTIONS

In order to maintain our extremely high uniform standards all children will be given a small Booking Slip card which is used to encourage children to wear their uniform correctly. If they do not staff will ask for their card and sign it for a uniform misdemeanour eg: shirt out, wrong shoes, no tie etc. If they gather four staff signatures they will be issued with a sanction which will be a Booking Slip detention which is served for one hour after school on a Thursday evening. Equally, if a child loses their Booking Slip Card they will automatically be given a Booking Slip detention.

EXAMPLES OF APPROPRIATE FOOTWEAR

For boys a good principle to apply is that footwear with a clear heel is an appropriate shoe.

For example this is a shoe: ✓



This is a black trainer marketed as a shoe: ✗



Examples of appropriate boys' shoes:



Examples of appropriate girls' shoes:



EXAMPLES OF FOOTWEAR THAT IS NOT APPROPRIATE

- No Ugg, ankle, knee length boots, walking boots or ANY other type of boot
- No plimsolls, canvas shoes, jelly shoes, sandals, high heels, open toed shoes, sliders, flip flops, crocs or backless shoes
- No trainers of any kind, shoes with any sports logo, Vans or Converse trainers

