

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> July 2024

Dear parents/carers, I am sure that you are as ready as we are for the summer break. This last half term has been incredibly busy. Year 11 and 13 were exemplary in their approach to their final exams. Both year groups enjoyed their Proms too. We welcomed the Year 6 students joining us in September a couple of weeks ago and our Year 7 students enjoyed Camp. Last week, we appointed Liam and Bibi as Head Boy and Head Girl, and Annabelle and Ben as their Deputies. There have been several Duke of Edinburgh expeditions and Geography Field Trips and well over 300 of our Year 10 students received excellent feedback from their work experience placements. I would like to thank all the staff for organising so many different trips and experiences for the students, who have been excellent ambassadors for the school. We all deserve a break! The Summer Term will end on **Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July**. School will close at **12.10pm**. If students want to grab lunch before they leave, they can pre-order one that morning in school to collect from the Small Diner. I hope the students all enjoy a well-deserved holiday with you.

The end of the school year is also a sad time for us as we say farewell to a number of staff who have a promoted post or new roles to look forward to. We will be saying farewell to the following teachers: Mrs Bandeira, Mr Gemmell, Mrs Hardwick, Mrs Heaton, Mr Marks, Miss Mooney, Miss Poole, Mrs Sinclair and Mr Twist. From the support staff, Mrs Millington, Miss Morris and Miss Walsh will be leaving. We also have Mrs Hanson and Mrs Lambert who will be on maternity leave from September – I wish all of them the best of luck! I also want to pay tribute to Mrs Mellado who will be leaving after 9 years here. Those 9 years mean she has spent over a quarter of her 33-year teaching career here. She will be missed, and I wish her well. Finally, I want to highlight a member of staff who will be leaving to take up her first Headship in Cheshire. Mrs Kane, Deputy Headteacher, has been incredibly supportive of me and other staff during her 6 years here. She has done so much for the students at this school, working tirelessly for Great Sankey High School and the local community. She is more than ready for Headship, and I look forward to seeing her new school develop and improve over time. On behalf of the students, Governors, parents, carers, and staff past and present, I would like to thank all of these staff and wish them the best of luck for the future.

I would also like to bring to your attention that in this week's Warrington Guardian, you will find out about a member of staff who has won the Unsung Hero in education award – No spoilers here but we will share details on our social media platforms from Thursday. Needless to say, I was so proud that one of our team got the award.

### Year Teams

This year, we saw a major change in the school's pastoral structures and those changes have been hugely beneficial. Mrs Canning who was Year 11 Pastoral Leader has a new role in our Sixth Form from September so here is an update on the Year Team staff for 2024-25.

YEAR	PROGRESS LEADER	PASTORAL LEADER	ASSISTANT PASTORAL LEADER
7	Miss Dorkin	Mr Guatella	Mrs Mather
8	Mrs Gallagher	Miss Bate-Argent	Miss Butler
9	Mr Evans	Mr Prescott	Mrs Cowell
10	Mrs Burgess	Mrs Danily	Miss Peers
11	Mrs Lee	Mrs Rodgers	Mrs Woodroffe

### **Uniform Expectations**

I have previously explained that we had made some changes to the uniform policy to try to reduce the amount of money parents and carers spend. The only branded items for the uniform are the tie, blazer, and skirt. All other items such as shirts, blouses, socks, and trousers can be bought from any supermarket or shop. For PE it is the short sleeve button polo top, short sleeve round neck top, or long sleeve multisport top that are branded. You only need one of these. Please be aware, for PE, students can either wear plain black joggers, leggings, or PE shorts or those with the Great Sankey logo. Please note that cycling shorts or similar are not permitted.

We ask parents to work with us on our uniform expectations so that our students adhere to the simple rules that we have. By sending your child to this school, you have effectively signed up to our rules, or our 'terms and conditions' if you like. Please also support the school by ensuring the footwear you get for September are acceptable school shoes. Often school shoes are much cheaper than the trainers some students wear.

At the end of this letter, I have attached our Uniform Guide (also available on our website) which has been updated to reflect some small changes to uniform for September. Please note that these apply to all students in Y7-11.

- one small set of gold/silver studs is permitted but must be removed for PE
- a plain dark school bag which is sturdy and large enough to hold an A4 folder

### **Term dates for 2024/25**

Autumn Term

Open Wednesday 4 September - Close Friday 18 October

Open Monday 28 October - Close Friday 20 December

Spring Term

Open Tuesday 7 January - Close Friday 14 February

Open Monday 24 February - Close Friday 4 April

Summer Term

Open Tuesday 22 April - Close Friday 23 May

Open Monday 2 June - Close Friday 18 July

INSET Days – (school closed to students) Monday 2 September 2024, Tuesday 3 September 2024, Friday 22 November 2024, Monday 6 January 2025 & Monday 21 July 2025

### **Return to School**

School will reopen for each year group next term on the following dates and times.

**Year 7 – Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September 8.20am    Year 11 & 13 – Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September 9.45am**

**Year 11/13 students who get the bus earlier will be allowed to enter when they arrive.**

**Years 8, 9, 10 & 12 – Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> September 8.20am**

Thank you for all your support this year. I hope you all enjoy a relaxing summer break.

Best wishes



Mr G Evans  
Headteacher





# UNIFORM GUIDE

## 2024-25

Achieving Greatness Together

GROWTH  RESPECT  EXCELLENCE  ASPIRATION  TEAMWORK

# Uniform

**Buying a school uniform is a major expense and for this reason the uniform has been carefully chosen and priced so that it is distinctive from those of neighbouring schools, is easily obtainable and keenly priced.**

Our uniform creates our school identity and establishes a sense of pride amongst the students. It is expected that all students will come to the school every day in full, neat, clean uniform, giving the message that our students take pride and place in our school community.

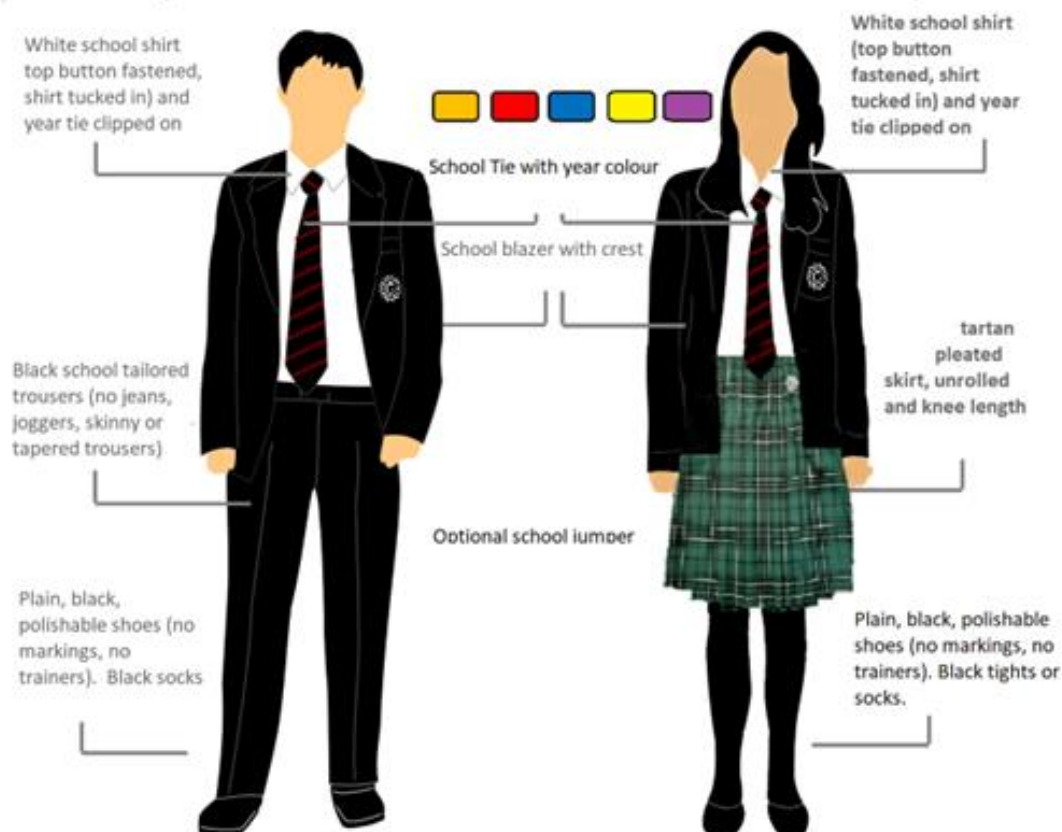
This will continue to be the case until the student leaves the school and will also apply to the public examination period for all students. Year 11 students will attend all examinations and revision sessions in full uniform until their last examination.

The support of parents in upholding our high standards and expectations of uniform and appearance is crucial. Staff are required to ensure these standards are always maintained and will challenge students who do not uphold our standards.

Our uniform sends a strong message about standards and self-worth. Admission to our school implies acceptance of the uniform code and students whose appearance does not meet our expectations may be sent home to change or be isolated from other students by a senior member of staff until it is rectified. Repeated disregard for school rules could result in further sanctions being levied.

We believe that wearing a uniform does not discriminate and ensures all students have equal opportunities and shared expectations, regardless of background.

**Students should always wear their uniform correctly, to, from and in the school. Students may ask permission to remove their blazer when in class**





# GSHS school uniform 2024/25

## Blazer

Black blazer with GSHS logo. Available in two different fits.



## Skirt

Compulsory GSHS tartan skirt, if not opting for tailored trousers.



## Tie

GSHS Clip on tie in appropriate year colour.



Year 7	Yellow
Year 8	Orange
Year 9	Red
Year 10	Dark Blue
Year 11	Purple

## Jumper

(optional, not to be worn in place of blazer)



## Apron

An apron is compulsory for Food. Technology lessons, such as the one illustrated below.



# Non-branded compulsory items

## Shirt/Blouse

Plain white buttoned shirt or blouse with either short or long sleeves

## Trousers

The trousers should be plain black, tailored style. Demin, Lycra, cargo style etc. are not permitted.

### ✓ Acceptable styles      ✗ Unacceptable styles



## School bag

A plain dark school bag which is sturdy and large enough to hold an A4 folder. It should ideally be a rucksack. Small handbags or crossover bags are not permitted. Students should come with their bag fully equipped for the day.

### ✓ Acceptable styles      ✗ Unacceptable styles



If you are in doubt about whether any item is permitted, please contact the school for advice.

Great Sankey High School Uniform Guide 2024-25

# Shoes

Shoes must be black flat shoes with no other colours or marking.

They should be polishable, smart, leather formal type shoe. Suede, canvas, or leather trainers / leisure footwear are not acceptable. Trainers are not permitted.

Do not assume stores that label their stock 'School Shoes' will be an appropriate purchase.

Please use the photographs below as a guide of what is acceptable and what is not acceptable.

## ✓ Acceptable styles      ✗ Unacceptable styles



## Socks

Students may choose to wear plain, thick black tights. If socks are worn, these should be black ankle socks only.

# GSHS PE Kit 2024/25

## Polo/Multisport Top

**COMPULSORY** – Short sleeved button top OR long sleeve Multisport top with school logo OR PE T-shirt (not pictured)



## ½ Zip top/hoodie

**OPTIONAL** long sleeve winter tops



## Joggers/Leggings/shorts/skort

Students can wear either the Great Sankey logo **OR plain black** joggers, leggings, shorts or skort **of the same style**.

**Please note that cycling shorts/Lycra shorts or similar styles are not permitted.**



## PE Jacket

**OPTIONAL**



## Sports socks

Plain black socks



## Trainers/Boots

Trainers are required for PE. These can be sports branded or non-branded. They should be inexpensive. If you wish your child to also have a pair of studded boots for the 3G pitch, they need to have soft studs (molded) Metal studded boots are not permitted.

## Health & Safety

No jewellery, including watches and earrings, are permitted during PE. Long hair must be tied back.



# Uniform summary for 2024/25

## Compulsory Uniform

- ☐ Black blazer with school badge in white
- ☐ Plain white school shirt/blouse with collar and top button (no logos) – short or long sleeved
- ☐ Clip on GSHS school tie in appropriate year colour

Choice of: Tartan GSHS school skirt **or** Black, formal tailored trousers

- ☐ Plain, black ankle socks **or** plain black tights
- ☐ Black, flat, polishable, smart, leather formal type shoe

### Optional

- ☐ Black V-neck school jumper with school badge only

## Equipment

- ☐ A plain dark school bag
- ☐ Pencil case
- ☐ Black pen x2, pencil, rubber, ruler, pencil sharpener, green pen, compass, protractor, two highlighters (glue stick and pencil crayons – optional)
- ☐ Calculator
- ☐ Apron

## Compulsory PE kit

- ☐ Short sleeve button polo top **or** long sleeve multisport top with school logo
- ☐ Joggers, leggings, shorts, **or** skort with the school logo **or** plain black but in the same style and no sports branding
- ☐ Plain black sports socks (plain or school logo)
- ☐ Trainers

### Optional

- ☐ ½ zip top **or** hoodie with school logo
- ☐ PE jacket with logo
- ☐ Soft studded boots

***Please note that if you are representing a school team you. will be expected to wear the branded GSHS school PE kit.***

If unsure, parents are advised to contact school, via their year office, for clarification before purchasing an item.



# Personal appearance

## Hair

Hair must be worn in an appropriate style. Hair styles must be such that they can easily be kept neat and do not prevent students from participating effectively and safely in all school activities. All long hair **MUST** be tied back for Health and Safety purposes during practical subjects, such as (but not exclusively so) PE, Science, DT.

Heads must not be fully shaved and should be no shorter than a grade 2, nor should there be any style which the school believes would undermine the ethos or discipline of the school. Inappropriate extreme haircuts are not permitted.

The dying, high or low lighting of hair in natural colours is acceptable – other colours are not permitted. Students will be required to re-dye their hair in the event of failing to adhere to this rule.

Eyebrows should also look natural. Please see make up section for information about eye lashes.

## Make-up

Make-up should be minimal and discreet for students in Year 10 and 11 only. False nails (including acrylics, BIAB or similar styles) for health and safety reasons. Coloured nail varnish, false eyelashes, lash extensions, false tan and excessive make-up must not be worn.

Students will be provided with hypo-allergenic make up remover and requested to remove their make-up should it be deemed excessive.

## Jewellery

Students are permitted to wear one pair of small, plain gold or silver stud earrings only. Facial and body piercings such as nose, eyebrow, lip, and tongue are not permitted. Multiple piercings are not permitted.

All other jewellery, except for a watch, is not permitted.

Earrings and watches **MUST** be removed before PE lessons, without exception, and this includes smart watches.

All watches, including smart watches, are not permitted in examination settings.

Any items not worn in the manner described above will be confiscated and returned at the end of the school day. Form tutors are responsible for daily uniform checks, Students who wear jewellery, beyond those identified as acceptable, will be asked to hand this into a member of staff who will place it in a labelled envelope and left securely in the Year office for collection at the end of the day. Students who persist in wearing jewellery will have these items confiscated and parents will be contacted to arrange collection. Any jewellery confiscated will result in a negative uniform point.

School is not responsible for any jewellery which is brought into school. This includes it being stolen, lost or damaged.

## Outdoor coats

Outdoor coats are recommended for students getting to school in poor weather conditions. They should be removed upon entering the school building.

Hoodies and non-uniform jumpers are not permitted. These items must be removed and should not be seen throughout the school day. If seen, they may be removed and kept in the year office until the end of the school day.

## Uniform changes due to weather

Should there be any uniform changes due to weather, school will communicate this to families and students.

## Parental Support

Parental support is crucial in upholding our high standard of uniform and appearance at our school. Parents are asked to note that we do not accept responsibility for loss of, or damage to personal property on, or left on, the premises.

The school retains the right to act as the final authority in the interpretation of the dress code and any student who fails to adhere to our uniform guidelines will risk being isolated or other sanctions as per the school's Behaviour Policy.

## Uniform purchase and help

All uniform is available from: **Warrington Schoolwear** 50-54 Buttermarket Street, Warrington, WA1 2NN or via [www.alphaschoolwear.com](http://www.alphaschoolwear.com)

Pre-loved uniform is also available from:

**School Uniform Network** – located at: Warrington Foodbank, Golden Square Shopping Centre, Bewsey and Dallam Hub and St Elphin's Pavilion

School uniform grants are available from: **Fashion and Textile Children's Trust**

**If you are having any financial difficulty, please speak to your child's year team for further information and support.**

