



Westcliff High School for Boys

SCHOOL UNIFORM POLICY

REVIEWED:	Summer 2026
COMMITTEE:	FAPC
DATE OF NEXT REVIEW:	Summer 2028

1. Introduction

Pupils must at all times be conscious of the need to look smart and professional, as befits a place of work, and learning. This policy sets out the School's approach to requiring a uniform that is of reasonable cost, offering good value for money for parents. The policy also clarifies the School's expectations regarding school uniform.

2. The School Uniform comprises the items listed below.

School Uniform (Years 7-11)

- Navy blue blazer with School badge*
- Black trousers (not denim or chinos) of conventional cut
- White shirt (long or short sleeved) with conventional collar
- A School House tie*
- A School v-necked pullover* is optional, but no other pullovers or sweatshirts are acceptable
- Black shoes of conventional shape and style**
- Dark grey or black socks

* Available exclusively from the School Uniform Shop.

** Shoes should be formal, uniformly black leather (or leather style) of conventional shape and style, the entirety of which should be able to take polish. They should not have Velcro, large logos, embellishments, patches, prominent tags, or different coloured soles or stitching. Boots, black leather trainers, or converse shoes are not acceptable.

PE/Games Equipment (Years 7-11)

The following items are required and are available exclusively from the School Uniform shop:

- 1 or 2 navy athletic vests (with House colour)
- 1 reversible rugby shirt (maroon with House colour)

The following item is optional and is available exclusively from the School Uniform shop:

- 1 t-shirt for indoor use in autumn and winter terms (with House colour)

Other PE items required, for which branded versions are available from the School Uniform Shop. Non-branded items bought elsewhere are acceptable:

- 1 kit bag
- 1 security bag for personal valuables
- 1 or 2 pairs of navy shorts ***
- 1 or 2 pairs of rugby socks (maroon)

*** The PE shorts sold in the School Shop have a School badge and have been selected to suit the School's PE activities. Other, general shop-bought navy-blue shorts are acceptable, but parents should ensure they are of an appropriate style and durability. For this reason, rugby-type shorts, rather than shiny football-type shorts, are recommended. Football shorts do not tend to withstand physical contact and movement.

PE Items required, but not available from the School Uniform Shop:

- 1 towel
- 1 pair of rugby/football boots with either moulded studs or BS6366 screw-in rugby studs
- 2 pairs of training shoes (one pair for indoor use which must be clean and non-marking and one pair for outdoor use)

- 1 or 2 pairs of white PE socks
- 1 gum shield
- 1 pair shin pads
- Cricket whites will be required for those selected for teams

Sixth Form Uniform

All Sixth Form students are required to wear School uniform in accordance with the above, except that they should wear the Sixth Form tie (available exclusively from the Uniform Shop), and that they are not required to have the PE/Games items listed. Students may also wear a representative honours tie, provided that the tie has been awarded as opposed to simply purchased. This will include Prefect, Thirty Club, Arkwright Scholarship or representative Essex sporting ties; other ties should be approved in advance of being worn to School. Students may wear a black skirt in place of black trousers (the hem must not be above the knee). Black, navy blue or natural skin tone tights may be worn with a skirt.

3. Limiting the Cost of School Uniform

The School aims to ensure that the uniform we require is affordable, in line with statutory guidance from the Department for Education on the cost of school uniform. In order to meet this duty, the School carefully considers whether items with distinctive characteristics are necessary e.g. by making a jumper an optional item. It also keeps the number of branded items to a minimum and avoids frequent, potentially costly, changes to the uniform specifications. The School also has arrangements in place for parents to acquire second-hand uniform items. It also consults with parents and pupils on any proposed significant changes to the uniform policy and carefully considers any concerns regarding the policy.

4. School Uniform Expectations for the School Community

Pupils are expected to wear the correct uniform at all times (other than on specified non-school uniform days) while on the school premises, travelling to and from school, and at out-of-school events, or on trips that are organised by the school, or where they are representing the school (if required).

School uniform should always be clean and tidy. Shoes should be polished regularly. Hair should be clean, tidy and a natural colour. Attention-seeking styles and lengths are not acceptable, and long hair must be neatly tied back. The Headmaster is the final arbiter regarding such matters. If a belt is to be worn it should be black and of simple design with a modest buckle. Hoodies must not be worn in the school buildings or grounds, and coats must not be worn inside school buildings.

Jewellery must not be worn although Sixth Form students may wear one single discreet stud per ear (these must be removed when necessary to ensure safety e.g. playing sports). Pupils must not come to School with visible tattoos or body piercings. Any make-up and hair accessories should be of a discreet nature and not draw undue attention to the pupil. The Headmaster is the final arbiter regarding such matters.

Parents are strongly advised to ensure their child has the correct School uniform and PE kit, and that every item is clean, in good condition, and is clearly labelled with the child's name. Parents and pupils may contact the relevant Director of School (Lower, Middle, or Sixth Form) if they have any questions or concerns regarding this policy. The School will endeavour to work with parents to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.

The School attaches particular importance to the dress and appearance of pupils. Pupils in Years 7-11 are required to carry at all times a Conduct Card which may be signed by any member of staff if a pupil is in breach of the School's uniform regulations. Pupils whose cards attract five signatures within a half-term, or who are unable to produce their Card when requested, will be subject to disciplinary action. In cases where it is suspected that financial hardship has resulted in a pupil not complying with this uniform policy, staff will endeavour to take a mindful and considerate approach to resolving the situation.

5. Policy Review

This policy will be reviewed every two years by the Finance, Administration, and Property Committee.

6. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

- Behaviour Policy
- Equality Information and Objectives statement
- Anti-Harassment and Bullying policy
- Complaints Policy and Procedure