



Introduction

Uniform plays a valuable role in contributing to the unique ethos of King Edward VI School. We believe our uniform:

- instils pride;
- supports positive behaviour and discipline;
- encourages identity with, and support for, the School ethos;
- ensures that students of all races and backgrounds feel welcome;
- protects students from social pressures to dress in a particular way;
- nurtures cohesion and promotes good relations between different groups of students;
- enhances participation and enjoyment of sport when students feel comfortable in their PE clothing; and
- supports effective teaching and learning.

Establishing the Policy

The Uniform Policy aims to be fair, reasonable and affordable. The School has consulted widely in formulating the uniform requirements (including with students and parents).

High priority is given to cost considerations. Wherever possible the School has ensured that the uniform can be purchased from high street shops, other retail outlets and internet suppliers. However, where it has been determined that branded or unique items are required from the School outfitters (Early Years), the School makes regular price, quality, durability and service comparisons with different stockists and considers important issues such as cost and availability of non-standard sizes.

This is in line with the School's best value statement. Support is provided to parents via:

- a widely publicised and clearly explained scheme for the remission of cost operated by the School.
- financial support offered by the School for those who have difficulties in affording the uniform.
- a successful low cost second-hand uniform scheme run by the FoKES.
- an effective system to re-unite named lost property with its owner.

The School does not operate as a uniform supplier and gains no financial benefit through the relationship with Early Years. The uniform requirements and cost of supplying the uniform are reviewed regularly by the Governors Leadership and Management Group. Any future changes to the uniform requirements would include a transitional period for phasing out the old and introducing the new.

Applying the Policy

The School ensures that the policy is clear and well publicised via the School website, the School Rules, admissions information and in the Home-School Agreement. The School will carefully consider any written request that is made to vary the policy to meet the needs of any individual student (e.g. to accommodate their religion, beliefs or medical conditions). Where a student is not adhering to the uniform requirements, the School will discretely try to establish why not. The Headmaster, or a person authorised by the Headmaster, may ask a student with no good reason to go home to remedy the breach. In all such cases parents will be notified and the absence will be recorded. If a student repeatedly infringes the School's rules on uniform, this will constitute a disciplinary offence and may be grounds for exclusion.

School Uniform (Years 7-11)

Students must wear full School uniform at all times except where otherwise directed by a member of staff. This includes lunch queue, dining hall, clubs and societies. The exception is during break times when students are playing on the Quad.

Hair

Hairstyle should conform to a reasonable norm which will be determined by the Headmaster. The following, for example, are not allowed: skinheads (less than clippers setting No.4), sculpted styles, close shaved cuts such as skinfades, unnaturally coloured dyed hair, pony tails, hair in excess of collar length or over the eyes. We acknowledge that Afro-textured hair is an important part of our Black students' racial, ethnic, cultural, and religious identities, and may require specific styling such as afros, braids and cornrows for hair health and maintenance. Headwear, such as turbans, may be worn for religious or cultural reasons. Students should be clean-shaven. Beards and/or moustaches are not permitted except for religious or cultural reasons. Side burns must not be lower than the bottom of the ear. The School will carefully consider any written request that is made to vary the hair policy to meet the needs of any individual student (e.g. to accommodate their religion or beliefs or medical conditions).

Jewellery

No jewellery should be worn in School, including bangles and wristbands, except where such items are worn for religious or cultural reasons. No ear, body or face piercing is allowed. Any jewellery worn when participating in contact sports represents a risk of injury to the wearer and other players. For this reason, such items are expected to be removed. If the wearer does not wish to take off any items for religious or cultural reasons then they will be required to cover the item securely with a sweatband or tape for the duration of the activity to minimise the risk of injury to themselves and others.

Sportswear

It is our hope that all students will represent the School in at least one sport during their time at K.E.S. We believe that the School crest on the playing kit contributes to the students' sense of pride in doing so. It also facilitates the returning of property lost on away fixtures. Parents are requested to clearly name all items of uniform to assist in this process.

The sports clothing contained in the uniform requirements have been carefully selected to:

- ensure safety (e.g. safety studs, gum shields)
- maximise flexibility of use across different sports (e.g. shorts that can be worn for PE and Games)
- ensure durability
- take account of different climatic conditions.

Senior Squad members are often given the option to purchase their own kit. Most retain them after leaving K.E.S as a reminder of their time at the School.

Appearance

The general appearance of students should conform to a reasonable norm, (including shirts neatly tucked in and ties done-up with top buttons fastened) which, if necessary, shall be determined by the Headmaster. School scarves, beanies and training rain jackets may be worn to and from School as can plain black/navy woollen scarves, plain black/navy woollen hats and plain black/navy coats. Baseball caps and other hats are not permitted at any time except on field trips as specified by the teacher in charge. It is important that each student should project an image that would bring credit to himself and the School.

Shirt Sleeve Order

In periods of hot weather Shirt Sleeve Order will be declared by the Headmaster. The following regulations apply:

- Students are not required to wear their blazers and may remove their ties and undo their top buttons. This includes when travelling to and from School.
- Blazers and ties should be placed in their locker or left at home until the Headmaster declares that Shirt Sleeve Order is over.
- It is important that shirts remain tucked in at all times.
- If boys choose to wear their blazer during Shirt Sleeve Order they must also wear their tie.

Uniform Checklist

Item	Compulsory	Optional	Any Retailer	Early Years Only	Notes
School Blazer Navy with embroidered crest	✓			✓	The School has researched different blazers so that the item offered by Early Years is of high quality and durable. Though these are more expensive than other brands, it is envisaged that most boys will only require two blazers during the five years between Year 7 and Year 11 which is less than if the blazer is a less durable brand.
School Tie Navy and gold stripes containing House stripe.	✓			✓	
Shirt Plain white	✓		✓		Not grey.
Trousers Charcoal	✓		✓		Traditional cut. Not grey or black.
V-neck pullover Navy		✓	✓		Not grey or black. No hoods, collars or zips. A navy pullover available from Early Years which has gold stripes around the neck is <u>recommended</u> .
Socks Black/Dark Grey	✓		✓		
Shoes Black	✓		✓		Shoes must be either laced or slip-on (not velcro) and polishable. Boots or trainers are <i>not</i> permitted.
Coat or Anorak Plain Black or navy-blue with no large motifs.	✓		✓		The Training Rain Jacket (see later) available from FoKES is <u>recommended</u> and can be purchased from ShopKES. Leather or suede jackets or denim coats are <i>not</i> permitted.
Book Bag or Case Plain dark colour with no large motifs.	✓		✓		Must be of a design that will enable books to be carried without being damaged. We recommend a sturdy rucksack that can be worn

Item	Compulsory	Optional	Any Retailer	Early Years Only	Notes
					on the back across both shoulders to distribute the weight evenly
Craft Apron	✓		✓		
School Rugby Jersey Navy and gold hoops with crest.	✓			✓	Rugby jerseys are also worn in all other winter sports.
School Rugby Shorts Navy with gold trim and crest.	✓			✓	These shorts are worn for all indoor and outdoors sports.
School Rugby Socks Navy and gold hoops.	✓			✓	Rugby socks are also worn in all other winter sports.
School Base layer with crest		✓			Only available from SportKES Parents' Association and can be purchased from ShopKES.
School Polo Shirt Navy with gold trim and crest.	✓			✓	Worn in all summer and indoor sports.
Gym Socks Plain white.	✓		✓		Worn in all summer and indoor sports.
Rugby/Football Boots	✓		✓		Must have safety studs.
Trainers	✓		✓		Worn in all summer and indoor sports.
Sports Bag Predominantly black or navy.	✓		✓		A School branded sports bag is available from SportKES Parents' Association and can be purchased from ShopKES.
Gum Shield		✓	✓		Gum shields are strongly recommended . Parents will be notified of an optional fitting service provided by a company which visits the School each year.
Tracksuit Trousers Navy		✓	✓		Tracksuit trousers with an embroidered crest are available from Early Years

Item	Compulsory	Optional	Any Retailer	Early Years Only	Notes
Cricket Trousers Plain white		✓	✓		No whites with club badges/colours.
Cricket Shirt Plain white		✓	✓		No whites with club badges/colours. Cricket shirts with an embroidered crest are available from Early Years
Beanie Hat Navy with crest		✓		✓	A warm knit hat that can be worn for training in all winter sports available from FoKES Parents' Association and can be purchased from ShopKES. It may also be worn to and from School
Scarf Navy and gold stripes		✓		✓	A warm navy and gold scarf to be worn to and from School is available from FoKES and can be purchased from ShopKES.
Sports Drill Top Navy with crest		✓			A durable water-resistant drill top that can be worn whilst participating in outdoor sports is available from SportKES Parents' Association and can be purchased from ShopKES.
Training Jacket Navy with crest		✓			A shower-proof jacket that can be worn to and from School, and to keep warm in Games lessons, is available from FoKES Parents' Association. It is recommended and can be purchased from ShopKES.

Sixth Form Dress Code

Sixth Form Dress Code – Female Students

Students must adhere to the Sixth Form Dress Code at all times except where otherwise directed by a member of staff.

Hair

Hairstyle should conform to a reasonable norm which will be determined by the Headmaster. The following, for example, are not allowed: skinheads (less than clippers setting No.4), sculpted styles, close shaved cuts such as skinfades and unnaturally coloured dyed hair. We acknowledge that Afro-textured hair is an important part of our Black students' racial, ethnic, cultural, and religious identities, and may require specific styling such as afros, braids and cornrows for hair health and maintenance. Headwear, such as headscarves, may be worn for religious or cultural reasons. The School will carefully consider any written request that is made to vary the hair policy to meet the needs of any individual student (e.g. to accommodate their religion, beliefs or medical conditions).

Jewellery

Jewellery should be discreet and unobtrusive. No body or facial piercing is allowed. Any jewellery worn when participating in contact sports represents a risk of injury to the wearer and other players. For this reason, such items are expected to be removed. If the wearer does not wish to take off any items for religious or cultural reasons then they will be required to cover the item securely with a sweatband or tape for the duration of the activity to minimise the risk of injury to themselves and others.

Appearance

The general appearance of students should conform to a reasonable norm, (which includes shirts/blouses neatly tucked in) which, if necessary, shall be determined by the Headmaster. Make-up and nail varnish, if used at all, should be subtle. For safeguarding reasons it is important for female students to wear the Guild Cross pin badge at all times to identify themselves to other students and staff as members of the School. Baseball caps and other hats are not permitted at any time except on field trips as specified by the teacher in charge. Students are asked not to engage in public displays of affection. It is important that each student should project an image that would bring credit to herself and the School.

Shirt Sleeve Order:

In periods of hot weather Shirt Sleeve Order will be declared by the Headmaster. The following regulations apply:

- Students are not required to wear their jackets. This includes when travelling to and from School.
- Jackets should be placed in their locker or left at home until the Headmaster declares that Shirt Sleeve Order is over.

Checklist

All the following items are compulsory and can be purchased from any retailer (unless stated).

Item	Notes
Tailored Suit Plain dark grey, black or navy.	Single or double breasted <u>tailored</u> formal business style suit. This should be a matching jacket and trousers/skirt, with conventional collar & lapels and buttons. No pinstripes, checks or exaggerated styles of jacket, trousers or skirts are allowed. Skirts must be <u>on or near the knee, or longer</u> . They should not be made of jersey fabric. Trousers may be of a tapered style but not skin-tight. Only thin belts with discreet buckle are permitted and these must be worn on the trousers/skirt only and not over the blouse. If there are any doubts, students are encouraged to discuss the matter first with the Head of Sixth Form before purchasing.
Formal Business Blouse or Shirt Plain single coloured	No checks, stripes or patterns. Blouses must have a collar, buttons and not be of a see-through material or have bare shoulders.
Guild Cross Pin Badge Silver	Available from Early Years (see reply slips). Prefect and Colours badges are awarded to individual Sixth Form students.
V-neck Pullovers / Cardigans (Optional) Plain single coloured	No round necks, logos, stripes, patterns, hoods, collars or zips. If worn, pullovers or cardigans must be longer than blouses or shirts. Jackets must be able to be worn over the top.
Plain Tights, Stockings or Socks	Natural or black tights. Socks any colour but white.

Shoes Black	Not brown, must be polishable with sensible heels. Boots are not permitted.
Bag or Case	Must be of a design that will enable books to be carried without being damaged.
Sports Clothing	Any colour. Must be genuine sports clothing. Members of the different sports teams will be informed of the kit requirements by the member of staff in charge.

Sixth Form Dress Code – Male Students

Students must adhere to the Sixth Form Dress Code at all times except where otherwise directed by a member of staff.

Hair

Hairstyle should conform to a reasonable norm which will be determined by the Headmaster. The following, for example, are not allowed: skinheads (less than clippers setting No.4), sculpted styles, close shaved cuts such as skinfades and unnaturally coloured dyed hair. We acknowledge that Afro-textured hair is an important part of our Black students' racial, ethnic, cultural, and religious identities, and may require specific styling such as afros, braids and cornrows for hair health and maintenance. Headwear, such as turbans, may be worn for religious or cultural reasons. Students should be clean-shaven. Beards and/or moustaches are not permitted except for religious or cultural reasons. Side burns must not be lower than the bottom of the ear. The School will carefully consider any written request that is made to vary the hair policy to meet the needs of any individual student (e.g. to accommodate their religion, beliefs or medical conditions).

Jewellery

Jewellery should be discreet and unobtrusive. No ear, body or facial piercing is allowed. Any jewellery worn when participating in contact sports represents a risk of injury to the wearer and other players. For this reason, such items are expected to be removed. If the wearer does not wish to take off any items for religious or cultural reasons then they will be required to cover the item securely with a sweatband or tape for the duration of the activity to minimise the risk of injury to themselves and others.

Appearance

The general appearance of students should conform to a reasonable norm, (including shirts neatly tucked in and ties done-up with top buttons fastened) which, if necessary, shall be determined by the Headmaster. For safeguarding reasons it is important for male students to wear their Sixth Form tie at all times to identify themselves to other students and staff as members of the School. Baseball caps and other hats are not permitted at any time except on field trips as specified by the teacher in charge. Students are asked not to engage in public displays of affection. It is important that each student should project an image that would bring credit to himself and the School.

Shirt Sleeve Order

In periods of hot weather Shirt Sleeve Order will be declared by the Headmaster. The following regulations apply:

- Students are not required to wear their jackets and boys may remove their ties and undo their top buttons . This includes when travelling to and from School.
- Jackets and ties should be placed in their locker or left at home until the Headmaster declares that Shirt Sleeve Order is over.
- It is important that shirts remain tucked in at all times.
- If boys choose to wear their jacket during Shirt Sleeve Order they must also wear their tie.

Checklist

All the following items are compulsory and can be purchased from any retailer (unless stated).

Item	Notes
Tailored Suit Plain dark grey, black or navy.	Single or double breasted <u>tailored</u> formal business style suit with conventional collar & lapels and buttons. This should be a matching jacket and trousers. No pinstripes, checks or exaggerated styles of jacket or trousers are allowed. If there are any doubts, students are encouraged to discuss the matter first with the Head of Sixth Form before purchasing.
Formal Business Shirt Plain single coloured	No checks, stripes or patterns.
Sixth Form Tie Navy and gold	Students are provided with a Sixth Form Tie as part of the Enrolment process. Additional ties may be purchased from the Sixth Form Office at a cost of £10.00. Prefect and Colours ties are awarded to individual Sixth Form students.
V-neck Pullovers / Cardigans (Optional) Plain single coloured	No round necks, logos, stripes, patterns, hoods, collars or zips. Jackets must be able to be worn over the top.
Socks	Any colour except white
Shoes Black	Not brown, must be polishable. Boots are not permitted.
Bag or Case	Must be of a design that will enable books to be carried without being damaged.

Sports Clothing	Any colour. Must be genuine sports clothing. Members of the different sports teams will be informed of the kit requirements by the member of staff in charge.
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