

University of Birmingham School

Dress Code 2015

RATIONALE

This policy sets out the expected dress code and uniform requirements for Year 7-11 pupils, Sixth Form students and teaching and professional services staff at the University of Birmingham School. Dress code and uniform for technicians, catering, cleaning, maintenance and security staff will be considered separately with those staff and contractors.

In developing this policy, we have been keen to ensure that the whole School community is smartly and appropriately dressed and able to act as role models and advocates for our School, whether on the premises, travelling to and from home, or on trips. We have endeavoured to ensure our dress code is affordable, and that our pupils will be safe and comfortable at school and on the journey to and from home. Yet we also recognise that everyone wants to be happy in what they wear each day. All of our pupils and Sixth Formers are individuals and learning to dress appropriately, in different circumstances, is part of growing up. Equally, our staff are role models and we expect that this involves consideration of what they wear, as well as how they behave. There will always be times where we want to present ourselves more formally than others: open evenings or VIP visits will require a smarter appearance than a relaxed, mid-week lunchtime club or society, for example.

To address these issues, the uniform will be simple and traditional in Years 7-11, whilst the Sixth Form will wear the same professional dress code as the staff. We have indicated in the policy what we believe to be appropriate and inappropriate for school or office environments but we are unlikely to cover everything. We will update or amend our guidance in light of consultation with pupils when the School is open.

Each day, we will expect all pupils, Sixth Formers and staff members to think about what they are buying or wearing for school, how they are presenting themselves and how comfortable their choices might make other people feel. They should consider whether it is appropriate for a representative of the University of Birmingham School and, if they do, we hope it will be easy for everyone to comply fully with our dress code. However, ultimately, if there are disagreements, the final decision as to whether appearance is appropriate or not rests with the School.

SCHOOL UNIFORM FOR YEARS 7-11

Compulsory items only available from the School suppliers (see contact details below)

Black blazer with School logo	<i>This must be worn at all times when travelling to and from the School and when moving around the building during the School day. It may be removed in lessons and outside at break and lunchtime.</i>
Red, white and black tie with School logo	<i>This should be worn at all times, knotted neatly close to the collar and extend to the trouser belt i.e. finish at or beyond the shirt button closest to the trouser or skirt waistband.</i>

Compulsory items available from any supplier

Plain, grey, long-sleeved, V-neck jumper	
Black school trousers or skirt	<i>Trousers should be tailored, straight leg school trousers. Flared, skinny, hipster trousers; leggings; or denim are not appropriate for school. Skirts should be tailored school skirts (eg pleated or pencil skirts) of a reasonable length i.e. finishing just above the knee. Lycra, jersey, knitted or tight-fitting skirts are not appropriate for school. We do not want to see short skirts, skirts rolled up or trousers or skirts worn on or below the hips.</i>
Plain white, long or short sleeved shirt	<i>This should have a stiff collar, be buttoned to the neck and tucked in at all times.</i>
Plain, black shoes	<i>These should be sturdy leather (or leather style) with wide flat heels. Trainers; platform, backless or open toe shoes; ankle boots; coloured laces or markings; visible branding; ballet pumps; fabric shoes or leather trainers are not considered appropriate styles for school. Boots may be worn in adverse weather conditions on the way to and from the School but must be changed into school shoes upon arrival.</i>
Black socks/opaque tights	
Water bottle	Clearly labelled with pupil's name

Other points for consideration

1. Students may wear a maximum of one pair of small, plain metal (silver/gold) stud earrings in the lobe of the ears and a wrist watch. These should be removed for PE, dance and enrichment activities, and therefore new piercings should be done during the summer holidays.
2. No other jewellery or visible body piercing, including tongue studs, is permitted.
3. Make-up, fake tan, nail varnish or acrylic nails may not be worn.
4. Aerosol sprays and perfumes may not be brought to the School.
5. Hairbands, hair ties, headscarves and turbans must be plain white, grey or black. Decorative or oversized hairbands, hair ties or ribbons are not appropriate for school.
6. Hair must be worn in a simple style. Shaved/razored hair styles or lines/patterns shaved or braided into the hair are not considered appropriate, nor are extreme changes of hair colour.

7. Any additional items of jewellery or clothing worn for religious reasons should be discussed with the School but reasonable requests will not be refused.
8. All items of clothing should be clearly marked with the owner's name so that lost property can easily be returned.

DRESS CODE FOR SIXTH FORM AND STAFF

Boys/Men

Plain, tailored suit	<i>These should be suitable for an office environment. Jackets should be worn at all times when moving around the building during the School day. They may be removed in lessons or in the office and outside at break and lunchtime. Jeans, chinos or any trousers with extra pockets are not permitted.</i>
Business shirt	<i>These should be plain or with limited pattern. Any colours should be suitable to be worn in an office environment or interview.</i>
Business tie	<i>As with Years 7-11, ties should be worn at all times, knotted neatly close to the collar and extend to the trouser belt i.e. finish at or beyond the shirt button closest to the trouser or skirt waistband.</i>
School tie	<i>The red, white and black school tie is required for Sixth Form for formal occasions and may be purchased from the School uniform suppliers (see contact details below).</i>
Smart leather (or leather style) shoe	<i>Shoes do not need to be black but should be a proper shoe with a wide flat heel that is suitable for office or interview.</i>
Dark socks	<i>These should be plain, with no patterns or colours.</i>
School lapel pin badge	<i>This will be provided by the School but replacements will need to be purchased from the School office.</i>

Girls/Ladies

Tailored skirt, trouser or dress	<i>These should be suitable for an office environment and dresses/skirts should be of an appropriate length. Leggings or denim of any sort is not permitted.</i>
Tailored jacket or smart cardigan/jumper	<i>Jackets must be worn for formal occasions.</i>
Blouse, if required	<i>These should be tailored and suitable for an office environment or interview. T-shirts, vests, strappy, backless, see-through, low-cut or tightly-fitted tops are not permitted.</i>
Leather (or leather style) shoe or boot	<i>Shoes do not need to be black and a limited heel or ballet pump is permitted but otherwise footwear should follow the requirements for Years 7-11.</i>
Plain, dark socks or tights	<i>Flesh coloured tights may also be worn.</i>
School lapel pin badge	<i>This will be provided by the School but replacements will need to be purchased from the School office.</i>

Other points for consideration

1. Jewellery must be small and kept to a minimum. One pair of small, plain metal (silver/gold) stud earrings may be worn in the lobe of the ears.
2. Visible body piercing, including tongue studs, is not permitted.
3. Minimal, natural looking make-up, suitable for an office or interview, may be worn.
4. Fake tan or acrylic nails may not be worn.
5. Aerosol sprays and perfumes may not be brought to the School.
6. Hairbands, hair ties, headscarves and turbans should be plain.
7. Hair must be worn in a simple style and extreme styles or colours are not considered appropriate.
8. The final decision as to whether students' appearance is appropriate or not rests with the school.

PE KIT

Compulsory items for Year 7-11 only available from the School suppliers (see contact details below)

- A black tracksuit bottom, skort or short with School logo
 - *A skort is a pair of shorts with a fabric panel resembling a skirt covering the front.*
 - *Plain black leggings may also be worn under skorts.*
- Red polo shirt with house colour and School logo
- Red long sleeved sports top with house colour and School logo
- Black sports socks

Compulsory items for Year 7-11 available from any supplier

- Swimming costume or trunks
- Sports trainers
 - *These must be suitable for physical activity by providing sufficient ankle support, cushioning and laces to tie up. Converse or 'plimsol' type shoes are not appropriate as they do not provide sufficient support.*
- Football boots
- Shin pads
- Gum shield
 - *A simple gum shield can be purchased from any good sports shop and can be moulded at home. Alternatively dentists often provide a gum shield service. Gum shields will also be available to purchase from the School at the start of term.*

Other specific items will be discussed with parents as sports provision develops at the School.

Students must bring their PE kit to every lesson even if they have a medical note as PE staff will involve students in leadership roles such as officiating, coaching and scoring.

Sixth Form Kit

In the first year, Sixth Formers may wear their own sports kit and will be advised by the Subject Leader for PE. Any specific bibs or kit required for team matches will be discussed with students as the year progresses.

Outerwear

In general, we would prefer pupils to wear a plain dark coat or anorak when travelling to school to maintain their smart appearance but, on dark mornings or evenings and in adverse weather conditions, we do recommend that brighter garments or reflective accessories are worn for visibility and safety. In cold weather, gloves, hats, scarves and boots may be worn on the journey to school. Baseball caps are not permitted at any time.

Personal Equipment

Students require all the usual writing materials: pen, pencil, eraser, ruler etc. A strong rucksack or school bag is essential to carry books and equipment, as well as PE kit (drawstring bags or bags that can only be carried on one shoulder are not appropriate).

Safety and insurance

We will do our best to assist your child in safeguarding valuable items with lockers provided for all Year 7-11 pupils and Sixth Formers who wish to use one (subject to availability). However, we do not take any responsibility for the loss of or damage to personal possessions brought on to the premises and recommend that parents/carers make arrangements for insurance of bags, clothing, mobile phones, bicycles etc, usually by an extension of your home insurance.

Large amounts of money, items of value (including smart phones, tablets, electronic games) or anything of sentimental value are best left at home. Such items may be confiscated if they are used in lessons or around the school premises without the direction of a member of staff for educational or personal purposes. Any items which are lost should be reported to reception immediately.

School Uniform Suppliers

We have appointed Gogna School Wear as our preferred uniform supplier. Uniform can be ordered online or in person at their store or at a designated school uniform day on the University campus.

Package deals are available, as well as an interest free easy payment scheme to spread the cost over the summer.

Please contact or visit Gogna at:

Store address	67/69 Rookery Road, Birmingham, B21 9QU
Website	www.gognaschoolwear.co.uk
Tel	0121 523 5572
Email	info@gognaschoolwear.co.uk