

Uniform Policy



Policy Statement

This policy takes into account Department of Education Guidance:

Circular Number 2011/04

Summary:

This policy outlines the College policy and provides guidelines on uniform

Stephen Taylor
Principal
June 2018

Additional Notes

Policy Number: 2014/10

History

Drafted September 2014

Consultation with staff, students and parents
October to November 2014

Presented to Board of Governors for
ratification November 2014

Consultation with staff, students and parents
April 2018

Presented to Board of Governors for
ratification June 2018

Documents superseded: None

Blackwater Integrated College has a distinctive uniform of which we are justly proud. Self expression and encouraging difference are important concepts at Blackwater IC. Where we do not compromise however, is the way our students wear the College uniform. Our students are ambassadors for the College and it is essential that all students adhere to the compulsory uniform.

There are many reasons for having a compulsory college uniform. Perhaps the most obvious reason is that it removes the burden of having to decide what to wear each day and makes all students equal within the College. Students are encouraged to take pride in themselves and their appearance at all times. Parents/Carers are asked to give their vital support in maintaining high standards, by adhering strictly to the Uniform Policy.

The College uniform also helps to establish a sense of identity. Students should feel proud of their uniform and their association with the College. As students move into the community, the image they present helps to establish and maintain our identity in the Downpatrick area and beyond.

Full college uniform, which includes the blazer, must be worn in and around the College, for all college occasions and journeys to and from school. The College tracksuit may be worn on some less formal occasions.

Exceptions to the policy may be made after considerations of the particular circumstances by the Principal.

Girls' Uniform

Blazer	Navy with embroidered badge
Blouse	Blue and white striped
Skirt/trousers	School grey pleated skirt or school grey trousers Please note school grey is a mid-grey, not charcoal grey
Jumper	College v-neck jumper with college colours
Tights/socks	Plain black tights or grey college socks
Shoes	Plain black leather, flat heeled school shoes
Coat	In cold weather a plain navy or black outdoor coat may be worn
Jewellery	A watch and a pair of small studs (one in each ear) are permitted. Other visible piercings are not permitted. Any other visible piercings should be arranged for the start of the summer holiday period so that they are healed before term starts. Recent piercing will not be accepted as a reason for students to exploit this rule. Students will be requested to remove any additional jewellery
Badges	Badges and pins other than the College Crest and official college badges are not permitted.

Hair	Hairstyles are expected to be neat, tidy and sensible. Extremes of cut or colour are not permitted. The Pastoral Team will decide if hairstyles are no longer in keeping with the college ethos and corrective measures may need to be taken.
Make-up	Make-up, if worn, must be subtle. Nail polish is not permitted.
Scarf	Only the College scarf is acceptable. The college scarf is available from our official stockist.
PE	The only clothing acceptable for PE are College shorts, polo shirt, socks, tracksuit trousers and hoodie – only available from our official stockist Appropriate trainers are required for PE
Schoolbag	Plain schoolbag large enough to hold A4 sized books and folders

Boys' Uniform

Blazer	Navy with embroidered badge
Shirt	Plain white school shirt which must be tucked into trousers
Skirt/trousers	School grey trousers Please note school grey is a mid-grey, not charcoal grey
Jumper	College v-neck jumper with college colours
Socks	Plain black socks
Shoes	Plain black school shoes
Tie	Ties must be worn in a neat fashion and should be worn with the top shirt button securely fastened.
Coat	In cold weather a plain navy or black outdoor coat may be worn
Jewellery	A watch and a pair of small studs (one in each ear) are permitted. Other visible piercings are not permitted. Piercings should be arranged for the start of the summer holiday period so that they are healed before term starts. Recent piercing will not be accepted as a reason for students to exploit this rule.. Students will be requested to remove any additional jewellery
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**PLEASE NOTE THAT ACCEPTANCE OF A PLACE IN THE COLLEGE IMPLIES
ACCEPTANCE OF THE COLLEGE UNIFORM POLICY**

- **THERE WILL BE NO CHANGES TO UNIFORM DURING AN ACADEMIC YEAR**
- **ENQUIRIES ABOUT UNIFORM SHOULD BE MADE THROUGH THE HEAD OF JUNIOR OR SENIOR SCHOOL AS APPROPRIATE**
- **DURING PERIODS OF EXTREME WEATHER, THE PRINCIPAL WILL INFORM FAMILIES OF ANY CHANGES TO THE UNIFORM POLICY**

Failure to adhere to College expectations:

If a student fails to follow the college uniform policy, we may take a number of steps:

- In the first instance, a student's form teacher/class teacher may address any issues relating to student uniform.
- In the event of a student being unwilling or unable to address concerns relating to a uniform concern, the student may be referred to the Head of Junior or Senior School or the Pastoral Coordinator.
- Parents may be contacted to provide the missing items of uniform and there may be a meeting with parents/carers to address concerns.
- Persistent concerns regarding uniform and/or appearance may result in referral to lunchtime detention, letter home to parents or meeting with parents/carers to address concerns.

We appreciate the financial burden parents/carers may be under. If the parent/carer of a student is unable to meet the costs associated with any item of student uniform, please contact the Pastoral Coordinator or the Principal.

As part of the Home College partnership, we hope that parents/carers will play an active role in supporting us maintain a high standard of student uniform and appearance. Parents/carers may do this by reinforcing the guidelines regarding uniform and appearance and supporting the implementation of any sanctions where a student contravenes the College Uniform Policy.

