

GORDON'S SCHOOL

SCHOOL UNIFORM & APPEARANCE

INTRODUCTION

At Gordon's we believe in the importance of high standards of school uniform as a means of encouraging students to feel a sense of pride and purpose. High standards of uniform contribute to the ethos of the school and it is the responsibility of all members of staff to ensure that students are correctly dressed and look smart and formal at all times. They should take action if necessary and students who continually breach the rules on school uniform should be referred to the Head of House or Assistant Head (Pastoral).

Full details of school uniform are sent to all parents/guardians when their child is admitted to the school. It is available from the School uniform shop and the online webshop.

The basic uniform is as follows:

Girls:

Grey knee length skirt or grey trousers

Green v-neck jumper

School blazer

School tie

White shirt

Black low heeled formal shoes

Black 100 denier tights (winter)

Grey socks with trousers

White socks (summer)

Boys:

Grey trousers

Green v-neck jumper

White shirt

School tie

School blazer

Plain black formal shoes

Grey socks

Labelling

All items of school uniform, including sports kit must be labelled with the student's name.

Uniform Guidelines

All Students

- The top button of the shirt must be fastened at all times.
- Shirts must be tucked in, not "folded" or hanging out. Please ensure your child's shirt is long enough to tuck into the waistband of skirts/trousers.
- In hot weather, long shirt sleeves may be folded neatly at the elbow. Short sleeved shirts and blouses are permitted.

Gordon's School has an outstanding reputation for high standards and expectations. This also applies to school uniform. Students are expected to adhere to these standards and school uniform is to be worn during normal school hours and during prep. The following details should be noted:

Main School (Y7-11)

- Main School students must wear school uniform at all times during the school day between 7.30am and 7.30pm, unless in sports kit for a physical activity.
- Ties should reach just above the waistband.
- Skirts must be of an acceptable length at all times. Students will be asked to replace any ill-fitting skirts. For guidance, skirts must be on or slightly above the knee.
- Trousers must be light grey and not tapered.
- Girls must wear white, unbranded, ankle socks (100 denier black tights from after Exeat in September until Easter). Boys must wear black or grey socks (not trainer socks).
- Shoes should be robust, plain and formal, of matt black polishable leather (not patent). "Ballet" style shoes are not allowed.
- Branded sports kit is acceptable when permission is given in order to facilitate a fixture or activity.
- Students may wear shorts or skorts in the Dining Hall in the Summer Term if in branded sports kit but must wear tracksuit trousers over the top in the Autumn and Spring Terms.
- Girls using the Fitness Suite or rowing ergos may wear lycra leggings, but must put on PE shorts/skorts or tracksuit bottoms immediately after the activity.
- Girls competing in athletics may wear lycra shorts, but must put on PE shorts/skorts or tracksuit bottoms immediately after the activity.
- Dark coats without a prominent logo may be worn in cold weather. The hood of a hoodie is not to be worn, except in extreme weather conditions (for example heavy rain, sleet, snow or hail).
- A fine neck-chain and a watch may be worn. Additional jewellery is not allowed.
- Nail varnish and make-up is not allowed.

Sixth Form Students only

- Formal dress (or branded sports kit for sport) is to be worn during the school day. All Sixth Form students are required to dress smartly as if they were working in a formal office environment.
- Male students must wear a suit, a smart shirt and tie, and formal shoes.
- Female students must wear a two-piece suit with trousers or skirt, a top such that shoulders are covered at all times and smart shoes. Alternatively, students may wear a dress with a jacket. Skirts and dresses must be of an appropriate and decent length, as a guide between mid-thigh and knee length. A member of the Wider Leadership Team will rule on what is deemed acceptable.
- Dark coats without a prominent logo may be worn in cold weather. The hood of a hoodie is not to be worn, except in extreme weather conditions (for example heavy rain, sleet, snow or hail).
- Students may wear jewellery that is discreet and befitting a professional appearance. A member of the Wider Leadership Team will rule on what is deemed acceptable. Equally make-up and nail varnish must befit a professional appearance.
- Girls competing in athletics may wear lycra shorts, but must put on PE shorts/skorts or tracksuit bottoms immediately after the activity.
- Girls using the Fitness Suite or rowing ergos may wear lycra leggings, but must put on PE shorts/skorts or tracksuit bottoms immediately after the activity.
- PE kit must only be worn for PE lessons or activity.

Blazers-off

A notice will be posted on the Staff Room door when students are permitted not to wear their blazers. This will typically happen when it is considered too hot to wear them. Blazers must otherwise be worn at all times with school uniform, except in classrooms when the teacher has given permission for them to be removed.

Hoodies

- Students may travel to and from school with their hoodie (green school hoodie only) under their blazer. This must be removed when they arrive in House, and not put on again until they go home.
- In cold weather, a notice will be posted on the Staff Room door to permit students to wear their green hoodie under their blazer for marching.
- House hoodies may only be worn for Inter-House events and for Saturday morning school with tracksuit bottoms or sports kit.
- The hood of a hoodie may only be worn over the head in extreme weather conditions and with permission from staff.

Students awarded School Colours or Junior Prefect may wear the tie awarded.

Only official school badges (e.g. Duke of Edinburgh Awards) are worn on blazer lapels. Students may wear one additional relevant charity badge. The appropriateness of badges will always be decided by a member of the School's Wider Leadership Team.

PE Kit

All PE and sports kit must be branded and obtained from official suppliers. Kit must be the version stipulated by the school. Old versions of kit obtained second hand will not be accepted.

PE and sports kit must not be worn to lessons, detention or prep unless express permission has been given by a named member of staff.

If permission has been given for students to wear PE or sports kit in the Dining Hall, then tracksuit bottoms must be worn in the Autumn and Spring Terms.

Members of the PE Department and staff taking period 7 or Saturday School activities, are responsible for ensuring that correct PE kit is worn by all students. Students who breach the rules for PE kit should be challenged by the member of staff taking the activity and should take action if necessary. The normal sanction for not having correct kit is a PE detention where students may be asked to help organise PE equipment during their freetime.

General Appearance

Body Piercing & Tattooing

Students must not display any piercings (other than in the ears) or tattoos at any time during the school day. Students in Years 7-11 may wear one pair of discreet stud earrings, one in each lower ear lobe only. Students in the Sixth Form may wear multiple earrings provided they befit a professional working appearance. A member of the Wider Leadership Team will rule on what is deemed acceptable.

Boots (for sport)

Students must not wear boots with studs or spikes (football, rugby, cricket etc) to and from the sports fields. Students must wear shoes, trainers, sliders or other suitable footwear (not socks only) and carry their sports boots on such occasions.

Hair (All students Y7-13)

- Students must not colour their hair an unnatural hair-colour, nor cut their hair in any way considered extreme. Students must not cut or colour each others' hair.
- Boys' hair must not be too long (below the collar) or excessively short (beyond a grade 2 as a guide), or unnaturally coloured. The back and sides must be blended with the top, to avoid an extreme 'step' or contrast.
- Girls' hair should be neat, and not excessively short, shaved or unnaturally coloured.
- Y7-11 girls with long hair must have it all tied back behind their head with a plain, dark or neutral band.
- All facial hair must be neatly-trimmed at all times in a professionally presentable fashion.

- **Senior Staff will rule on what is deemed acceptable**

Enforcing Expectations

- It is incumbent on all staff to challenge any infringements of this policy.
- Where a member of staff does not feel they can directly challenge a student's dress, they may refer the matter instead to the student's Head of House via the School Office.
- Students infringing this policy may lose privileges, free time or be issued with a school detention.
- Students whose uniform or appearance is not deemed acceptable may not be allowed to attend school trips or represent the school until such time that their appearance has been rectified.

Helen Carruthers

Deputy Head (Pastoral)

June 2023