

**John Colet School
Uniform Policy (Years 7 – 11)
Sixth Form Dress Code
Staff Dress Code**

Date policy was agreed	March 2008
Date Equalities impact assessment completed	December 2011
Date policy was reviewed	November 2011
Date reviewed by Governor Advisor	n/a
Date reviewed by Parents	March 2008
Date reviewed by the Governors	November 2011
Governors body responsible for the review	Curriculum Committee
Senior Leadership Team Member accountable for writing and reviewing the policy	Headteacher

Consultants: Mrs. C. McLintock (Headteacher).

Our uniform policy and dress codes have been drawn up in consultation with students, parents, carers, staff and groups representing different faiths.

Monitoring and Reviewing

This policy will be formally reviewed by the Governing Body every 3 years.

Ongoing monitoring of actions and impacts/outcomes will be:

- Feedback via Headteacher's termly report to Governors

Aims

A high standard of personal appearance is expected of all students and staff.

Through our uniform and dress codes we aim to:

- Encourage pride in the school
- Support teaching and learning
- Enable students to be comfortable, safe and secure
- Ensure that students and staff of different social, religious and ethnic groups feel welcome
- Encourage a sense of equality and cohesion
- Protect students from social pressures to dress in a particular way
- Ensure students present the school in a positive way within the community
- Encourage greater individual responsibility for personal presentation as students move from compulsory to post-compulsory education

In this way, the uniform and dress codes contribute to the overall aims of the school. The policy applies to school trips when uniform is to be worn.

Uniform Years 7 to 11

Regulation items of uniform can be purchased from Stevensons, 131-135 Victoria Street, St Albans, Hertfordshire. Tel: 01727 853262. Stevensons are also able to provide various aspects on non-regulation uniform.

Boys:

- **Regulation** white John Colet School polo shirt
- **Regulation** maroon John Colet School sweatshirt
- Plain black trousers (not cords or jeans) Trousers which look like "jeans" are

not permitted

- Plain white or black socks
- Plain black shoes (**not training/leisure shoes**) which are suitable for wearing during the day and to and from school
- The Sikh turban and Jewish skull cap are permitted
- Dark coloured outdoor coat

Boys PE:

- Rugby jersey (fully reversible in black/sky blue)
- Sky blue with black trim gym tee-shirt
- Black shorts
- Sky blue socks
- Swimming trunks/shorts which are not below the knee
- Rugby/football boots
- Training shoes which have adequate support and sturdy soles. "Leisure Shoes" are unsuitable for PE
- Optional black tracksuit bottoms for outdoor use
- All kit needs to be clearly marked with the student's name either in indelible pen or embroidered on the outside of the garment

Girls:

- **Regulation** white John Colet School polo shirt
- **Regulation** maroon John Colet School sweatshirt
- Plain black trousers (not cords or jeans) which are straight leg or with small bootleg. Trousers which look like "skinny jeans" or "jeans" are not permitted
Note (January 2012): It is hard to give a very clear description of what is suitable given the variety of styles of trousers and how they look on different girls. Certain trousers (leggings, skinny jeans or that style) are clearly wrong. In general, trousers may be tight above the knee but as you look below the knee they should not be tight to the leg. If they are going in towards the ankle so that they look reasonably close to the ankle then they are not acceptable as this is the style of a skinny jean. Straight leg trousers should be acceptable providing they are not tight from the knee to the ankle. A small bootleg is acceptable as these trousers are not designed to be tight to the leg/ankle below the knee. Sometimes it may be hard for a member of staff to decide so the matter should be referred to a senior member of staff for a second opinion.
- Plain white or black socks, or black or flesh coloured tights
- Plain black shoes (not boots or training/leisure shoes) with a low heel which are suitable for wearing during the day and to and from school
- Muslim students who wish to wear hijabs may do so provided that the fabric is plain and lightweight
- Dark coloured outdoor coat

Girls PE:

- Sky blue PE polo shirt
- Black shorts
- Swimming costume
- Sky blue socks
- Black sweatshirt for outdoor use
- Optional black tracksuit bottoms for outdoor use
- Training shoes which have adequate support and sturdy soles. "Leisure Shoes" are unsuitable for PE
- All kit needs to be clearly marked with the student's name either in indelible pen or embroidered on the outside of the garment

Summer Uniform

- After May half-term, the sweat shirt becomes optional for all students in Years 7 to 11. Another over garment cannot be worn in place of the sweatshirt.

Sixth Form Dress Code:

Girls:

- Smart professional work wear (no jeans/combat trousers, no low skimpy tops or bare tummies, no shorts or leggings, no obvious logos on tops). Skirts/dresses can be no more than 3cm above the knee
- Suitable footwear (no trainers or beach type flip flops)

Boys:

- Smart professional work wear (no jeans/combat trousers, no shorts, no obvious logos on tops) including a tie
- Suitable footwear (no trainers or canvas shoes)

All Students:

- “Plain” is defined as being without embellishment i.e studs, additional zips, braiding, logos etc
- Unnatural hair colouring is not permitted; the interpretation of “unnatural” is as follows:
 - A colour that is not found within the natural colour spectrum, i.e. a bright, extreme or vivid colour
 - A combination of colours that is easily visible or stark in contrast
- If hair extensions are worn, no beading is permitted. Extensions must also be in a colour that naturally blends with the hair
- One single stud in each ear is permitted; the stud must be worn in the lower part of the earlobe and should be removed for PE; students wearing studs in their ears other than in their lobes will be expected to remove them
- Jewellery (except a watch) is not permitted; however, if there are religious or family reasons for wearing an item of jewellery then permission must be sought from the Head of Year. Jewellery is the responsibility of the owner and is worn at the owner’s own risk
- Other visible body piercings are not permitted and the student will be expected to remove them
- Natural, subtle and basic make-up may be worn to cover skin complaints
- Clear nail varnish may be worn but fingernails must be short and nail extensions of any kind are not permitted
- No visible body art
- Garments which cover the face or whole body are not permitted
- Baseball caps are not permitted
- Students may remove their sweatshirt without the permission of a member of staff during a lesson but the sweatshirt must be replaced before leaving the lesson
- All uniform should be marked in permanent pen with the owner’s name

Staff Dress Code:

- Smart professional work wear (no jeans or leggings) which sets a good example to the students (i.e. no low cut tops or trousers)
- Suitable footwear (no beach type flip flops, trainers or boots worn outside of trousers) which portray a professional image; trainers are permitted for PE staff
- Ties for men are preferred
- One single earring in each ear
- No other visible body piercings

- No visible body art
- Garments which cover the face or whole body are not permitted

This dress code applies to all employees of the school. It is in force during the school day and at any parental meetings.

Cost of uniform

We want to ensure that the cost of uniform does not deter any student applying to the school, nor leads to students feeling socially excluded or unable to afford other necessities. Parents/carers who are unable to provide their child with the required items of school uniform should contact the Headteacher. Such approaches will be handled with discretion and sensitivity. The uniform suppliers, costs and quality of the uniform are reviewed annually to ensure that it provides good quality clothing at an affordable price. Parents/carers are regularly consulted on their views in this respect.

Enforcement of the uniform policy

It is the responsibility of parents/carers to ensure that their child comes to school in the correct uniform (see the Home School Agreement). Form tutors are responsible for monitoring uniform; all staff are responsible for ensuring that students are correctly dressed in class and elsewhere on the school site.

Their Form Tutor will speak to a student who is wearing incorrect uniform. If it is not addressed for the next school day then the student will be referred to the Head of Year. In the event of repeated uniform infringements parents will be contacted and the student will risk being sent home. In the case of jewellery and other accessories, the student will be asked to remove the item, which will be confiscated. A parent/carer will then need to come in to school to collect the item in line with school policy.

A member of staff wearing inappropriate clothing will be interviewed by their Line Manager and asked to address the issue ready for the next working day.

The Headteacher is the final arbiter in all matters of uniform and dress.

Issues arising from the policy

Parents/carers should raise any issues relating to school uniform, dress codes or other aspects of appearance with the Headteacher. Requests to vary the uniform requirements for particular reasons, such as medical needs, will always be carefully considered.

Students should raise issues with their tutor and Head of Year; they may also request that uniform matters, including proposals for change, be put onto the agenda of Year and School Council meetings.

Staff should raise issues with their Line Manager. Requests to vary the dress code for particular reasons, such as medical needs, will always be carefully considered.

Policy reviews

Our uniform regulations are reviewed annually; the review includes consideration of uniform items, supply, cost and value for money.