

All Hallows Catholic High School



# Appearance and Uniform



Issued May 2023

## **Note for Parents and Carers**

*This pamphlet covers our rules and guidelines on children's appearance and uniform.*

At All Hallows we want to prepare pupils for the world of work by insisting on high standards of appearance and uniform. Our rules on uniform and appearance have evolved over time and are strongly influenced by the feedback we get from parents who set high standards at home and like to see these being reinforced at school. We are pleased that our pupils are regularly complimented on their smart appearance and are grateful to our parents for supporting us with our uniform standards.

Our uniform is compulsory and must be worn correctly by all pupils at all times in school. Every child admitted to the school has been given a place on the clear understanding that their parents or carers accept and comply with our policies. Some pupils try to test the edges of what they can get away with, but schools where compliance with uniform regulations is strong are able to discourage this. Ensuring your child co-operates with school rules is where you as a parent play a key role in upholding school discipline. Be wary of claims such as "But all my friends have one..." "Everybody's wearing them..." "Teachers don't mind...". If in doubt, check with school. Adjustments to uniform are made from time to time. We communicate these to parents well in advance. We are conscious of the financial pressures on families and our uniform requirements are intended to be sensitive to these.

### **Face and Hair**

**Hair must be groomed, tidy and one natural colour.** Gels are permitted but should be used sparingly. Pupils may not come to school with sections of their eyebrows shaven and boys must be clean shaven.

Hairstyles such as wedges, basins, shaved sections, skin fades, extensions, anything shorter than a Number 2 cut and those covering the eyes are unacceptable. Hair must be blended and not undercut. The headteacher will decide what constitutes an 'extreme' haircut.

Accessories should be simple and not present a safety risk. Flamboyant hair accessories are not permitted e.g. large flowers, headbands or scarves.

Pupils who break these rules will be sanctioned in line with the school system. In the rare case of repeated offences, these sanctions will be escalated.

## Make-up, Deodorants and Jewellery

Make-up, false tan, nail-varnish and sprays are banned. Sprays can cause serious reactions to other children and are a health and safety risk. Nails must be kept short. False nails (e.g. acrylic or gel) are banned for safety reasons.

Jewellery of all kinds, including non-metallic wristbands, is banned with one exception: pupils may wear one pair of plain gold or silver studs in the ear lobes only and these must be removed for PE lessons.

## Scarves and Hats

In cold weather pupils may wear scarves, gloves and woollen hats on the yard and between school and home in any colours, although football team scarves are not allowed. Hoods worn up are not allowed unless, of course, it is raining outside. Scarves, hats and coats must not be worn inside the school building.

## Shoes

**Boys:** Plain, black ankle-high shoes and black laces (no boots and trainers) Trainers, pumps and branded footwear are not allowed.

**Girls:** Plain, low heeled (no more than 2 inches in height) black ankle-high shoes and black laces (no boots and trainers). **Slipper or canvas style shoes provide no support. They are unsuitable and dangerous for school use.**

Trainers can often be unsuitable for children with foot injuries. A letter from a medical practitioner stating the reason for and length of time that a pupil may need to wear alternative footwear will need to be provided should a pupil need to deviate from uniform footwear.

Pastoral staff may contact parents if they have concerns over footwear. Shoes should not have flashes of different colours on them or carry a bright manufacturer's logo.

## Blazers

**Blazers:** Pupils in all years wear the standard black blazer with school badge. Blazers should be worn at all times unless a teacher has given permission for it to be removed. During periods of hot weather pupils may ask for permission to remove their blazers once they have arrived at a lesson. Blazers are optional from September until October half term and after the Easter break.

**Ties:** These are worn by boys and must be worn at all times and in the correct manner (i.e. full length with a manageable knot fastened up to the neck). We are proud of our uniform and that is why ties which have been defaced, de-threaded, or are in a ragged condition through misuse are confiscated. Replacement ties are available from our local uniform stockists.

**Shirts:** Both girls and boys must have their shirts tucked in at all times.

**Trousers and skirts:**

**Boys:** Black school trousers (polyester/viscose). Canvas trousers are not allowed.

**Girls:** Purple box pleat designed exclusively for All Hallows. Skirts must be worn to the centre of the knee cap. Please will you ensure when purchasing skirts that they are of a suitable length. Pupils who roll over their skirts will be punished according to the school sanction systems. There is a girls trouser option available from Trutex online and 'Justs' in Penwortham. Both the 'Girls Twin Pocket Trouser', Black (**JGTN-BLK**) and Senior Girls Twin Pocket Trouser, Black (**GTN-BLK**) are available as an option for girls.

**Pullovers:**

Both girls and boys wear the All Hallows purple pullover. These are not to be tucked in or gathered up at the back.

Persistent failure to comply with our Appearance and Uniform Policy will lead to an escalation of sanctions.

**Name identification on school wear:** Children can be in a rush or be careless and clothes can get mixed up. Please make sure that your child's clothes are properly marked or labelled with their names.

**PE kit:** (please label/initial all items): Details of official school PE kit can be found in Prospectus on website ([www.allhallows.lancs.sch.uk](http://www.allhallows.lancs.sch.uk)).

**Non-uniform days:** Normal lessons take place on these days. The only difference is that children can choose, within reason, what they want to wear. Clear guidelines about appropriate dress are issued to all pupils before each non-uniform day. The following items are **not** permitted on non-uniform days: additional jewellery, exposed midriffs, cropped or low cut tops, short skirts and items with potentially offensive wording and logos.

We always have a spare stock of uniform in school and in the event that a student arrives in school with the incorrect uniform, our first step would be to provide them with an appropriate alternative from our stock.