

Heathfield Community College



Uniform Policy

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| Ratified: | 17 July 2023 |
| Ratified By: | HT (FGB Committee awareness) |
| Next Ratification Due: | June 2024 |

General

At Heathfield Community College we believe that a school uniform gives a sense of belonging and pride in the College whilst ensuring equality amongst students. Ensuring consistent adoption of a simple uniform is an important part of reducing one aspect of peer pressure and inequality between students.

In addition, a smart appearance contributes positively to the students' attitude to work and study; it also influences how the College is portrayed to the general public.

The College has, in consultation with staff, students and parent representatives, reflected upon the DfE non-statutory Guidance on School Uniform and the statutory Guidance on the Cost of School Uniforms in addition to best practice research on school uniform. As such the guidance below reflects consideration of the Human Rights Act 1998 and Equality Act 2010 and taken into account key considerations such as safeguarding requirements and the health and safety of students.

Costing of all items have been carefully considered and are subject to annual review. Support can be available in some circumstances following communication and discussion with the College. Alternative items or second hand/pre-loved items are available for all aspects. A second hand/pre-loved provision is a valued part of the whole College commitment to sustainable, environmentally aware approach.

The College expects and encourages every student to look smart at all times. Students are expected to present with: Natural and tidy hair; no extreme styles or colours; natural and discreet make up; plain black belts. It is the College's judgement on whether these expectations have been met. If in any doubt always check with your Pastoral Manager before making any changes. It is vital for all property to be clearly marked with the student's name. In this way lost property can be traced.

College Uniform Supplier

Heathfield Community College uniform policy requires that the items listed below should be purchased for all students. The majority of uniform and PE items are available from our uniform supplier:

Uniform orders can be made from Broadbridges as follows:

- Telephone 01444 413466
- Website www.broadbridges.co.uk
- Shop - Broadbridges, 2-8 Sussex Road, Haywards Heath, RH16 4EA
Mondays - Fridays 9am to 5:30pm
Saturdays 9am to 5:00pm

If considering purchasing items from an alternative supplier, the items must comply with our policy.

Jewellery

The wearing of jewellery is limited and subtle:

- discreet studs for pierced ears
- no visible necklaces should be worn
- no hooped or drop earrings
- only one ring
- no bracelets.

Any other piercing is forbidden, i.e. nose piercing. Any prohibited jewellery / piercings will be confiscated. Piercing replacement retainers are not to be worn.

Hair

Extreme styles of hair are unacceptable. These include: unnatural colours (for example but not limited to pink/plum/purple tinted), two tone/dip-dye hair. Shaved lines, shaved patterns and/or distinct/sharp changes in length in the hair are also not acceptable. All changes in length should be graduated. There should be no skin fades. Styles containing beads are unacceptable.

If at all unsure, circumstances relating to cultural requirements should be discussed with the College in advance at all times.

Makeup

Makeup should be discreet: no bright colours on eyes, false eyelashes or heavy coatings of mascara or foundation. No nail varnish, false nails or nail art.

Headscarves

Black or white plain headscarves may be worn for religious/cultural reasons.

Guidance

If you are in any doubt about uniform, hairstyles or jewellery always contact your child's Pastoral Manager before styling or purchasing to avoid difficulties, misunderstandings or sanctions. We will not accept any alternatives to what is outlined in this policy.

In the event of students wearing incorrect/inappropriate uniform, hair, or jewellery:

1. This will be logged on our management system as a uniform issue.
2. Students will be expected to correct immediately if possible (e.g. nail varnish, jewellery).
3. Be supplied with replacement items to wear for the remainder of the day if possible.
4. If 3 is not possible, then social time will be supervised inside College.

Parents/carers will be contacted and consulted on the method of providing an acceptable replacement.

Should a student be wearing incorrect uniform, hairstyle or jewellery they will lose their free time until the situation is resolved.

Should a student refuse the offer of borrowed uniform or to remove inappropriate jewellery he/she should expect to have lessons in the Inclusion Hub until the issue is resolved.

Appendix 1 - Uniform requirements September 2023

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| Blazer | <p>Black blazer with College logo on the breast pocket. <i>Only available from Broadbridges or SOHCC.</i> Students may remove blazers in class but should wear them at all other times including moving between lessons. In hot weather students will be advised by teachers of the change in rules.</p> |
| Polo Shirt | <p>Green polo shirt bearing the College logo. <i>Only available from Broadbridges or SOHCC.</i> No visible t-shirts under the polo shirt.</p> |
| Jumper (optional) | <p>Black v-neck with green trim. Additional item worn as well as the blazer. <i>Only available from Broadbridges or SOHCC.</i></p> |
| Trousers/Shorts | <p>Black classic or straight fit school trouser style only and should not come above the ankle. Trousers must be plain black material only. <i>These items can be purchased from Broadbridges, SOHCC or other retailers as long as they are compliant with the requirements above.</i></p> <p>Trousers that are close fitting on any part of the body are not acceptable. Trousers that are skinny fit/skin tight, denim, made of heavy cotton material, combat style, jean style, contain Lycra, or similar stretchy fabric that would cause them when worn to look skin tight/tapered, or with logos are not acceptable. Neither should trousers have additional buttons / zips / sequins / rips / studs / poppers / makers labels or names on them.</p> <p>Tailored shorts that adhere to the same criteria above. The length of the short should be knee length. Shorts must be worn with school shoes, not trainers.</p> |
| Skirt | <p><u>Option 1:</u> Black knee length pleated skirt (deep yolk, all round pleated - Charleston style with black zip) - for the majority of students the 24" length will be required. OR <u>Option 2:</u> Black straight knee length skirt. This is a school skirt, not of stretch material. The length of the skirt must be knee length. (various lengths are available to comply ensure compliance with this rule) No other style of skirt is acceptable. <i>These items can be purchased from Broadbridges, SOHCC or other retailers as long as they are compliant with the requirements above.</i></p> <p>Skirts that are close fitting on any part of the body are not acceptable. Skirts that are skin tight, denim, made of heavy cotton material, combat style, jean style, contain Lycra, or similar stretchy fabric that would cause them when worn to look skin tight/tapered, or with logos are not acceptable. Neither should skirts have additional buttons / zips / sequins / rips / studs / poppers / makers labels or names on them.</p> |

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| Belt | Smart black belt only. No studs or embellishments. |
| Footwear | Black shoes that can be polished. Examples of the type of shoe can be seen here . No leather trainer style shoes, canvas shoes or trainers to be worn. No suede shoes of any style. No logos or patterns. No leather or canvas VANS. No Ugg style boots, no open toe, no sandals, no high heel or platform shoes are permitted. Trainers may only be worn during PE lessons. Boots may be worn to College during bad weather but must be changed for school shoes on arrival. |
| Socks | Black or dark grey only, no higher than ankle socks |
| Tights | Tights black or natural only, to be worn without additional socks. |
| Outdoor wear | A winter coat is the only acceptable additional outer layer in College. Hoodies and jackets of a sweatshirt type material are not acceptable as outdoor wear in College. No cardigans, sweatshirts or hoodies to be worn under the blazer. Hats and scarves are not permitted in the building. |
| Bags | Students are required to carry their equipment in a school bag/rucksack. Bags should be big enough to hold A4 folders and sturdy enough to protect items inside. |

This list is not exhaustive and from time to time these criteria are open to interpretation. It will be for the Headteacher to determine acceptability. The Headteacher's decision is final.

Appendix 2 - PE Department Expectations

If a student is unable to take part in PE, we encourage them to continue to participate in other ways such as officiating games, coaching or evaluating performance. Therefore they will still need to bring the correct kit with exceptions, such as a coat or extra warm clothes as stated by their teacher and a letter informing us of the reasons for not taking part. Students are then able to participate and achieve their targets in lessons.

Students may be given break time detentions or after school detentions, if this procedure is not followed. Following discussion with students and parents we agree that greater consistency of items of PE and slightly more choice would be better for all. Therefore we have added some optional items and also ensured all PE items are logoed for greater consistency.

ALL ITEMS OF UNIFORM, PE KIT AND OTHER CLOTHING SHOULD BE CLEARLY LABELLED WITH THE STUDENT'S NAME

It is important that every student has the compulsory kit as listed below, students competing and participating to represent the College do not need to purchase any additional kit, these items are cost compared annually to ensure best value locally in line with other schools:

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| Compulsory kit | <p>Green and black unisex logoed short sleeve PE top / fitted green and black short sleeve PE top or green and black long sleeve top <i>Only available from Broadbridges or SOHCC.</i></p> <p>Heathfield logoed black shorts and/or jogging bottoms or unless opting for the Heathfield logoed sports leggings - please see optional items below <i>Only available from Broadbridges or SOHCC.</i></p> <p>Black knee length sports socks</p> <p>A change of underwear. Shin pads. Training shoes. Football boots (when required on the field).</p> |
| <p>Gum shields are compulsory in lessons and College matches for contact rugby. We strongly advise the use of gum shields for hockey. They are compulsory when playing in College matches.</p> | |
| Optional items | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Towel.• Additional black base layers can be worn under the compulsory kit.• Heathfield logoed sport leggings (<i>Only available from Broadbridges or SOHCC.</i>).• Heathfield logoed skort (<i>Only available from Broadbridges or SOHCC.</i>).• Heathfield logoed quarter zip jumper (<i>Only available from Broadbridges or SOHCC.</i>). No other jumper will be accepted.• Heathfield logoed quarter zip outer jacket (<i>Only available from Broadbridges or SOHCC.</i>). No other jacket will be accepted. |

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