

Bassingbourn Village College

Uniform and Equipment Policy 2024-25

Section 1: Introduction

Bassingbourn Village College promotes excellence and aspiration in everything its students do. The academy uniform is designed to reinforce this spirit of excellence, encouraging students to take pride in belonging to their college community.

We understand that, for some families, finances may be tight. We believe that, by having a uniform policy and by doing all we can to keep items of fashion out of the college, we help families to keep costs down. Nevertheless, if you do have an individual problem, or if you are unsure about an item of clothing, please do not hesitate to contact your child's Achievement Lead who will deal with your enquiry in the strictest confidence. To support parents, on behalf of BVC, the PFA organises a second-hand uniform shop, details of which can be found on their Facebook site ([facebook.com.groups/parentsandfriendsofBVC](https://facebook.com/groups/parentsandfriendsofBVC)).

If in any doubt about the details of the Uniform and Equipment Policy, and to save time and worry, parents/carers should contact the college.

The uniform policy applies to all students whenever they are in school, travelling to and from school, or otherwise representing the college.

Section 2: Uniform and Equipment

2.1 Academy Uniform

The school blazer, school tie, and the PE top are our minimum expected branded items with the school logo. These items are identified with * below and are available online from Price and Buckland (pbuniform-online.co.uk/bassingbourn).

All items not marked with an asterisk in the uniform and PE and Games kit lists must be completely plain. No logos, patterns or embellishments of any kind are allowed. Should there be any questions regarding acceptable uniform items, please contact the academy to check before purchase.

Please note that some items are compulsory, whereas others are optional.

Option 1 (Skirt)	Option 2 (Trousers)
<p>Compulsory items</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Plain black blazer with school logo*● School tie*● Black straight or pleated school skirt (see additional guidance below)● Ankle of knee length black or white socks, or tights.● White collared shirt● Black, flat, leather/faux leather-fronted, logo-free shoes (see additional guidance below) <p>Optional items</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Branded black V-neck jumper or plain black V-neck jumper	<p>Compulsory items</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Plain black blazer with school logo*● School tie*● Plain black, tailored/school trousers (see additional guidance below)● Black socks● White collared shirt● Black, flat, leather/faux leather-fronted, logo-free shoes (see additional guidance below) <p>Optional items</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Branded black V-neck jumper or plain black V-neck jumper

2.2 Skirts

- We recommend that skirts are purchased from our uniform supplier.
- Skirts should be straight or pleated.
- Skirts must not be made of a stretchy material.
- Parents/carers must ensure the skirt they purchase for their child is the correct length; the skirt should sit at or below knee length.

2.3 Shirts

- Shirts must be long enough to tuck in and the correct collar for wearing a tie (should have a top button and not an open collar).

2.4 Trousers

- Trousers must be plain black, school style, tailored trousers.
- Tailored shorts can be worn as an alternative to trousers.
- Boot cut, skinny cut, jeans, cords, cropped, leggings or flared trousers are not permitted.
- Only dark buttons or belts can be worn.

2.5 Shoes

Shoes should be black, flat, faux leather/leather-fronted and logo-free. The style should be traditional, avoiding the appearance of a trainer.

Some specific styles that are not permitted include:

- Boots or ankle boots;
- Trainers or plimsolls;
- Suede, fabric or canvas shoes;
- Shoes with heels higher than 3cm;
- Styles with obvious logos or branding;
- Styles with elaborate buckles, decorations or patterns.

2.6 Jumpers

- The college branded jumper or a plain black V-neck jumper can be worn under the school blazer.
- The jumper cannot be worn instead of the blazer.
- No sweatshirts or hoodies, including zip-up hoodies may be worn.

2.7 PE and Games Kit

Compulsory items (* - branded items)	Optional items
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Gold and black polo shirt with logo (*)● Gold and black rugby shirt with logo or plain black rugby shirt (for rugby)● Black fleece with logo or plain black sweatshirt● Black shorts or skort (with or without school logo)● Black sports socks● Shin pads for football● Hair tie● Trainers● Football boots	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Plain black jogging bottoms or leggings● Gold and black waterproof jacket with logo● College skort (with or without logo) – can be worn as an alternative to the shorts.● Gum shield

Students who are unable to participate in a PE lesson, owing to injury, are still expected to bring and wear their full PE kit, as well as a note from their parents/carers requesting that they be excused. Excused students will be able to participate through coaching and officiating roles.

2.7 Equipment

The following is a list of equipment that we advise students have each day to ensure they are equipped for their learning.

A pencil case containing:

- 2 black or blue pens
- a pencil
- a 30cm ruler
- a rubber
- a pencil sharpener
- a highlighter
- a glue stick
- colouring pencils

Other items

- A scientific calculator
- A reading book
- A water bottle (no fizzy or energy drinks)
- A hair tie for sport and practical lessons if hair is long
- Year 11 will need a clear pencil case for exams.

2.8 Labelling

We require all items of clothing to be clearly marked with the students' full name. With hundreds of students owning identical uniforms, it is much more likely that lost items will be returned if they are named. Labels are available through our school uniform supplier for this purpose. Black permanent markers may be used, but names should be written largely, clearly and in full (not initials).

Section 3: Presentation and Appearance

3.1 The appropriate wearing of uniform

The following points about general appearance should be noted:

- Uniform should be worn in a 'smart and business' like manner at all times when inside the college.
- Shirts must be tucked in at all times; top buttons must always be fastened.
- Skirts must be knee-length and not shortened by being rolled up at the waist.
- Year 11 have the privilege of wearing a plain black business suit and Year 11 tie. The tie can be purchased through Wise Pay. If Year 11 choose not to wear the Year 11 tie then they will be expected to wear the normal school tie.

3.2 Hairstyles

- For all students, hair must be maintained in a conventional and understated style. We do not allow extremes of style, or colour. No patterns or shaved heads are allowed.
- Hairstyles should be of natural colour.
- Long hair must be tied up for PE and practical lessons; students with long hair must bring a hairband.

3.3 Jewellery

- Students with pierced ears can wear one pair of plain studs only. These must be removed during PE lessons.
- Any form of body piercing is not permitted.
- Students can wear a wristwatch.
- An item of jewellery which is worn on religious grounds or medical grounds is allowed following discussion with the student's Achievement Lead.

3.4 Make-up

- Discrete makeup is permitted.
- Nail varnish of any description, as well as nail extensions/acrylics, are not permitted (students will be required to remove these for the following day).

Section 4: Policy Infringements

- Our Uniform and Equipment Policy encourages a sense of pride, belonging and loyalty to the community of which all students are members. The policy also removes any visible manifestations of inequality.
- The detail above, including the list of prohibited items/styles, is not exhaustive and the college's decision on what is and is not acceptable is final.
- When a student is not dressed in the full uniform or does not have the expected appearance, a member of staff will direct and support the student to rectify the concern. Students are required to respond positively and immediately to resolve the issue.
- When required, parent/carers will be contacted and requested to provide the required support to rectify the concern in partnership with the college.

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