



BASSINGBOURN
VILLAGE COLLEGE

Bassingbourn Village College Uniform and Equipment Policy 2025-26

Section 1: Introduction

Bassingbourn Village College promotes excellence and aspiration in everything its students do. The college uniform and equipment expectations are 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 and equipment policy, and by doing all we can to keep items of fashion out of the college, we help families to keep costs down. In addition, we have limited the number of branded items enabling our families to purchase uniform items from alternative outlets.

Nevertheless, if you do have an individual concerns, 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).

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.

This 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.

All students, every day, wear all the following (compulsory items)	Important notes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plain black blazer with school logo* • School tie* • White collared shirt • Black, flat, leather/faux leather-fronted, logo-free shoes (see additional guidance below) • Black/grey/dark coloured socks 	Shirts must have a top button and not a 'revere' collar as all students wear a tie (see appendix)
All students, every day, wear one of the following (compulsory item):	Important notes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Black straight or pleated, knee length, <u>school</u> skirt (see additional guidance below) Or <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plain black, tailored/school trousers (see additional guidance below) Or <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plain black, <u>tailored</u>/school knee length shorts (see additional guidance below) 	<p>Students <u>CANNOT</u> wear:</p> <p>Leggings</p> <p>Sport shorts</p> <p>Stretchy material skirts; these are banned</p> <p>Jeans</p>
Students can also wear (optional items):	Important notes:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plain black V-neck jumper • Plain black V-neck sleeveless jumper (tank top) 	<p>Students <u>CANNOT</u> wear:</p> <p>Sweatshirts/Hoodies; these are banned</p> <p>A black jumper with a logo</p>

2.2 Skirts

- We recommend that skirts are purchased from our uniform supplier, although skirts can be purchased from any school uniform supplier.
- **Skirts can be straight or pleated but must not be tight fitting or short in length. Fashion school skirts are not acceptable.**
- **Straight skirts must have a split in the back.**
- **Skirts must not be made of a stretchy material; these skirts are banned from being worn at the college.**
- Parents/carers must ensure the skirt they purchase for their child is the correct length; the skirt should sit at or below knee length.
- Sanctions will be given if a student's skirt is rolled up, not fastened correctly leading to their skirt being shorter, or any other adjustment that causes the hem to rise and the skirt to be short.

2.3 Shirts

- Shirts must be long enough to tuck in.
- Shirts must have 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 Shorts

- Tailored trousers can be worn as an alternative to a skirt or trousers.
- If a child is wearing shorts they must be of a tailored design.
- **Sport shorts cannot be worn as part of the school uniform, at any time of the year.**

2.5 Shoes

- Shoes should be plain black, flat, faux leather/leather-fronted and logo-free.
- Plain black, trainer style faux leather/leather shoes can be worn; however, material trainers or coloured trainers are not permitted.

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 V-neck 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.**
- Jumper must be completely plain black; **jumpers must not have any logo or motif.**

2.8 PE and Games Kit

All students must have (Compulsory items):	<u>Recommended</u> optional items	Optional items
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Gold and black polo shirt with logo (*) ● Black shorts or skort (with or without school logo) ● Hair tie for long hair ● Trainers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Shin pads for football (and hockey club) ● Gum shield – this is compulsory for participation in contact rugby and extra-curricular hockey club 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Plain black jogging bottoms or leggings ● College skort (with or without logo) – can be worn as an alternative to the shorts. ● Long, black sports socks ● Gold and black waterproof jacket with logo
<p>One of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Gold and black rugby shirt with logo (for rugby) (*) ● Plain black rugby shirt (for rugby) ● Gold and black round neck sweatshirt with logo (*) ● Plain black round neck sweatshirt ● Black fleece with logo (*) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Football boots 	

* - Branded items

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 students must have each day to ensure they are equipped for their learning.

A school bag

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
- A scientific calculator

Other items that we recommend each child has every day:

- 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 always worn in a 'smart and business' like manner when inside the college.
- Shirts must be always tucked in; top buttons must always be fastened.
- Skirts must be knee-length and not shortened by being rolled up or adjusted by another means.
- 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 or facial piercing is not permitted; this includes nose piercings. The college does not allow students to keep their piercing in because it has 'recently been pierced'. Parents should support their child to have piercings done at the start of the summer holidays therefore allowing the required six weeks healing to be completed before return in September when the piercing will need to be removed.**
- Students can wear a wristwatch, which also must be removed for PE lessons.
- An item of jewellery which is worn on religious grounds or medical grounds is allowed following discussion with the student's Achievement Lead. These items will still be required to be removed for PE.

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).

3.5 Summer Uniform (start of summer term until the end of the summer term only).

- Students are not required to wear their blazer during the summer term;
- The summer term is from the return after Easter until the college closes for the summer holiday.
- Students can wear tailored shorts at any time of the year; sports shorts **cannot** be worn as an alternative during the summer term.

3.6 Reasonable Adjustments

- In exceptional circumstances, and in line with their individual needs, the college may agree to a reasonable adjustment to the uniform worn by an individual student.
- These adjustments will be agreed in conjunction with parents and carers and should be based on professional advice and guidance.

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.
- Uniform and equipment checking is part of the mentor time routine every morning.
- 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.
- The Behaviour for Learning Policy will be used to resolved ongoing, or defiant behaviour, linked to uniform concerns.
- If required, parent/carers will be contacted and requested to provide the required support to rectify the uniform concern in partnership with the college. Parents/carers are requested to respond in a timely manner to rectify a uniform issue enabling their child to continue their day in mainstream lessons.
- Parents must not contact the college to direct the college to allow their child to wear an alternative item to our uniform such as wearing an alternative skirt, wearing sports shorts instead of tailored shorts, or wearing a piercing. It is vital that all parents understand the college uniform expectations and support the college in ensuring their child has the correct uniform each day.
- The college will always work in partnership to support parents and students to have the required and correct uniform and equipment.

Appendix – Uniform visuals

The following visuals provide clarification on key items of uniform.

Correct			Not acceptable
			
			
			

