

# **Uniform Policy**

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# **Ursuline High School**

Ursuline High School (UHS) policies and procedures relate to its operation, staff, facilities, health and safety, risk management and services provided.

UHS strive to ensure equality of opportunity for all. This policy forms part of UHS commitment to create a positive culture of respect for all staff and students. The intention is to identify, remove or minimise discriminatory practice to ensure fairness and consistency for all those covered by it regardless of their individual differences and value the diversity of all individuals and communities.

As part of its development, this document and its impact on equality has been analysed and no detriment identified.

# **Ursuline Ethos / Mission Statement**

To build a caring and supportive Christian community where each individual is able to grow in their understanding of the faith and their commitment to Christ.

To set standards of excellence in teaching and learning and to provide a broad, balanced, and relevant curriculum.

To develop personal qualities of understanding of self and others, self-discipline and motivation, responsible maturity, creative freedom, and integrity.

To foster an attitude of respect for all regardless of age, ethnicity, colour, creed, or gender.

To build peace, to promote justice, social concern and, through the celebration of difference, the equality of all peoples.

The uniform at Ursuline High School plays a very important role in maintaining high standards and we are extremely proud of its unique identity. It instils a sense of belonging to the community and avoids divisiveness, enabling students to be proud of their school and its values.

In line with guidelines set out by the DFE and published in November 2021, Ursuline High School has tendered for a new supplier while incorporating slight changes to the specification of the uniform, ensuring value for money, reducing branded items and allowing for easy access to good quality second hand uniform.

## **Uniform Supplier**

A new contract was awarded to Schoolwear Inc, Worcester Park, commencing on the 1<sup>st</sup> January 2023. The contract was awarded based on the best value for money, geographical proximity, and online access. Branded items have been kept to a minimum.

As this is a single supplier contract, regular tendering will be implemented to ensure competitive quality and prices. The contract will be re tendered every five years.

#### **Second Hand Uniform**

Any used items of uniform including bags, in good condition, can be donated to the school. We use this to provide emergency uniform to students and to provide to families who may have financial difficulties. Where sufficient stock is available will arrange a sale of second-hand uniform to the wider community via second-hand uniform sales coordinated by the Ursuline Parents' Association. The UPA can be contacted at <a href="https://www.upa.com/upa.com

Schoolwear Inc also provides the school with an incentive plan, whereby the school receives a percentage of profits (5%) to be utilised towards a uniform fund. The school will manage the fund to meet, where possible, those students in need of support. This will target those students purchasing uniform in Year 7. Parents entitled to free school meals should contact Tom Glavina:

Tom.Glavina@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk for support.

# **Uniform list - Years 7-11**

Must be purchased from Schoolwear Inc:

- Royal blue blazer with embroidered Ursuline High School badge
- Royal blue V-neck jumper with Ursuline High School badge
- Blue and white stripe blouse (long or short sleeve)
- Royal blue pleated mock kilt skirts should not be altered in any way and must be worn at knee length.
- Royal blue trousers (alternative to kilt)
- Black backpack with Ursuline High School badge

May be purchased from any retailer:

- Shoes plain black with a sensible heel (5cm maximum) must be polishable. No platform, sling backs, trainers, plimsolls, or boots at any time. Ankle must be visible.
- Tights plain black/navy or neutral tights, no patterns, must be worn. Or plain black/navy or white knee length socks.
- Coat/jacket black/navy only, with sleeves, no logos, no denim/leather/fur.

## Full school uniform must be worn at all times.

In exceptionally warm weather the school will withdraw the requirement for jumpers and blazers. A notice will be published on the school website and 24hrs notice given for a return to full school uniform expectations.

Consequences for failing to adhere to the School Uniform Policy can be found in the School Behaviour Policy and may include being sent home to dress correctly.

In cases where it is suspected that financial hardship has resulted in a student not complying with this uniform policy, staff will take a mindful and considerate approach to resolving the situation.

Where issues arise with adhering to this policy students must be sent to school with a note from a parent explaining the issue and when this issue is expected to be resolved. This note must be signed by the student's Head of Year.

The school will consider reasonable adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality/protected characteristics. These will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Students/parents requesting adaptation of the uniform should make representation to their Head of Year before any adjustments to their uniform are made.

PE Uniform – must be purchased from Schoolwear Inc

- Navy and white Ursuline High School polo shirt with house colour logo
- Navy and white Ursuline High School skort
- Navy and white Ursuline High School hoodie
- Navy Ursuline High School tracksuit bottoms
- Navy and white sports socks

May be purchased from any retailer.

Pair of trainers, suitable for sporting activities - (not plimsolls)

## **Accessories and Make-up**

## **Jewellery**

One pair of earrings, studs with one stone or small hoop in the earlobes.

One necklace of a religious nature may be worn.

Anklets, nose studs, tongue studs, or any other facial or body piercing are not permitted.

Tattoos are not permitted.

Inappropriate jewellery will be confiscated and returned to the student at the end of the half term.

Students can and are encouraged to wear a wristwatch. Smart Watches are not permitted.

# Hair and make up

Hair accessories (including headbands, hairbands, scrunchies, hair slides, small bows, or braid beads/cuffs/rings/spirals/cords) must be black/navy or metallic gold or silver.

Bandanas, durags, wraps, and bonnets are not allowed to be worn with school uniform. A headscarf for religious reasons is permitted, which must be black, navy or white.

No makeup or nail varnish, false nails, false eye lashes or lash extensions may not be worn to school.

Coloured contact lenses must not be worn.

#### **Outdoor coats**

Sensible outdoor coats maybe worn on the journey to school. However, outdoor coats must be removed when students enter the building. Coats should be kept in the student's locker for the duration of the school day. Coats and jackets must be black or navy, with sleeves, no logo, no denim, leather, or fur are allowed.

# **Scarves, Gloves and Hats**

Scarves, gloves and hats may be worn in plain black or navy only. However, scarves, gloves and hats must be removed when students enter the building and should be kept in the student's locker for the duration of the school day. Headscarves for religious purposes are permitted but should be black, navy and white.

## Equipment

Students must provide their own padlocks to keep lockers secure.

All uniform must be clearly marked with the student's name, as should all clothing, textbooks, exercise books, etc.

Mobile phones, airpods/earphones/headphones MUST be kept in lockers, or these will be confiscated, and a letter sent home for a parent/guardian to collect the item.

Ear defenders may be permitted at the discretion of the SENDCo and this will be documented in the student's SEND provision map.

The school does not accept responsibility for loss of money or personal items.

# **Sixth Form Dress Code**

Aim: the purpose of a dress code is for students to develop a sense of what is appropriate to wear in a formal working situation without enforcing a uniform, to set an example to Years 7 to 11 in terms of appearance and for high standards of appearance to be visible within the community.

As in all walks of life, students will be expected to abide by a code of dress in the Sixth Form. Staff are asked to ensure that the code is being complied with. It is the responsibility of all students to ensure they are properly attired and view the school as a working environment. Therefore, clothes should be suitable and respectable to the occasion.

Requirements: All students must wear their lanyard at all times to identify them as UHS 6<sup>th</sup> form students.

#### Female students:

Sixth Form students are required to wear:

- A tailored dark suit jacket/blazer patterns are NOT permissible.
- Either **tailored trousers or a tailored skirt in dark colours**. Trousers should be full length and not cut off. Skirts must be mid-thigh length as a minimum. Tights must be worn with skirts.
- Blouse or shirt in the colour of the student's own choice. This top should be designed for professional wear. It must cover shoulders and midriff and must not be low cut.
- Plain fine knit jumpers or cardigans may be worn with a blouse/shirt, but all pupils must have a dark blazer.
- Shoes should be formal and suitable for wearing with a suit.
- A headscarf for religious reasons is permitted.

## Male students:

- Business Suit A formal, classic, dark business suit black, grey, or navy. Suit jacket to be worn during the timetabled day.
- **Formal shirt and tie** Shirts to be buttoned, with a collar. Long-sleeved shirt (sleeves rolled down, cuffs buttoned) or short sleeved shirt, with tie.
- Formal shoes (you must be able to polish them)

# The following items are NOT to be worn:

Jeans, chinos, cord, leggings

- Short skirts above mid-thigh
- Sweatshirts and hooded tops
- T-shirts, tops with straps, sleeveless tops
- Trainers, sports shoes, flip-flops, Ugg boots and army style boots

All students are expected to follow the dress code on the way to and from school, as well as at school and at school functions. You must take notice of any rules given from time to time by the Head of Sixth Form and/or Heads of Year in relation to particular items of clothing or appearance. Any student who does not dress accordingly will be sent home to change. Repeated offences will result in a temporary suspension.

Judgement on what is suitable rests with the Head of Sixth Form and Heads of Year 12 and 13. All staff are entitled to enforce the dress code at all times.

Anyone who, through force of circumstances, is unable to comply with these regulations should bring a letter of explanation signed by her parents/carers.

# **Dress Code around School**

All students will be issued a locker and coats, scarves and hats must be left in the lockers during the day.

# **Dress Code in Lessons**

Students must not wear coats, scarves, and hats during lessons.

## Dress code at formal events

Students are required to wear black and white outfits when representing the school at formal school events.