

## Dawlish College Uniform Policy

Adopted by the Governors of Dawlish College  
on 31 January 2023

### WHY?

There are convincing arguments both for and against school uniforms. Schools in England are not required to have a uniform and in some countries it is the exception, rather than the rule. It is really important to emphasise, therefore, that having a uniform at Dawlish College is not an inevitability, but rather a positive choice that we have decided to make – taking into account all of the pros and cons – in order to promote some of the core values that we think are really important in a child's education.

So why have we chosen to have this uniform policy?

1. To promote a sense of pride in being a student of Dawlish College and a sense of belonging to our community – dressing uniformly symbolises our equality and our respect for others
2. To enable families to provide children with the most affordable clothes to wear to school without worrying that they will look or feel 'different'
3. To make the school day as simple and purposeful as possible, minimising time lost in arguments over what is or is not appropriate (because the policy is clear) and maximising learning time
4. To remove from children as much as we possibly can the pressure of having a choice about what to wear and whether their choice will be judged 'right' or 'wrong' by their peers

No choice = No pressure

### HOW?

We have taken care to write this uniform policy so that it is:

- ✓ Really clear: because it is simple to understand what we mean, there is no ambiguity to confuse students or their families and no arguments about what is and is not allowed
- ✓ Really affordable: because we have stripped out branded items down to the absolute bare minimum, nearly all items are generic and available to buy at good value in a variety of shops
- ✓ Really fair: because our policy is clear and our list affordable<sup>1</sup>, there is no excuse for non-compliance<sup>2</sup> (so we can be really fair and consistent with all students in enforcing the policy)

### WHAT?

\*Highlighted items are branded and stocked only in Thomas Moore; everything else can be generic

#### COMPULSORY ITEMS

- ✓ Plain black blazer with Dawlish College embroidered logo\*
- ✓ One of the following:
  - Smart, plain black, formal school trousers
  - Smart, plain black, tailored shorts
  - Smart, plain black, formal pleated skirt, worn just above the knee
- ✓ Smart, plain black ankle socks and/or smart, plain black opaque tights
- ✓ Completely black school shoes
- ✓ Smart, white school shirt (worn tucked in at all times and with the top button done up)
- ✓ Dawlish College tie\* (worn smartly – tied to the very top and worn to an appropriate length, i.e. the tip should reach the waistband of the trousers/shorts/skirt)

#### OPTIONAL ITEMS

- ❖ A plain black, knitted V-neck jumper or cardigan may be worn beneath the blazer (but never in place of the blazer)

<sup>1</sup> We are determined that the cost of uniform will not be a reason for non-compliance: please contact the Headteacher if affordability is an issue and we will work together to find a solution

<sup>2</sup> Non-compliance is dealt with under the Behaviour Policy

Additional notes:

- Uniform, including the blazer, must be worn in full and smartly:
  - for the entire journey to and from college
  - when moving around the college site
  - when entering and leaving lessons
  - during assembly
- A sensible coat is the only item to be worn over the college uniform (any other non-uniform jumpers, cardigans, hoodies etc. will be confiscated)
- Outdoor garments must be removed as soon as you are settled inside a building, including in the canteen if sitting down
- The only jewellery permitted is a single pair of small, plain, discreet ear studs and a watch; a clear retainer may be worn *in the place of* a nose piercing
- Make-up should be discreet and nails should appear natural and be kept short (i.e. not be visible from the underside of the finger)
- Hair must be of natural colour and must have no designs cut into it
- If belts are worn they should be narrow and plain black with a simple buckle (designer logos on belts are not acceptable)

PE KIT

*\*Highlighted items are branded and stocked only in Thomas Moore; everything else can be generic*

COMPULSORY ITEMS	
✓	Navy-blue Dawlish College PE polo shirt (with Dawlish College logo)*
✓	One of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Navy-blue Dawlish College shorts (sky-blue band down the side)*</li> <li>○ Navy-blue Dawlish College skirt/skort (sky-blue band down the side)*</li> </ul>
✓	Plain, <u>navy-blue</u> hooded sweatshirt
✓	Astro trainers or other trainers (with <u>non-marking soles</u> )
✓	Plain, <u>navy-blue</u> football/rugby socks
✓	Shin pads
✓	Gum shield
OPTIONAL ITEMS	
❖	<i>Football/rugby boots</i>
❖	<i>Plain, <u>navy-blue</u> leggings</i>
❖	<i>Plain, <u>navy-blue</u> tracksuit trousers</i>
❖	<i>Plain, <u>navy-blue</u> waterproof jacket</i>

We are grateful to parents and carers for taking the time to read and understand our rationale for having a uniform policy and for supporting the college in enforcing it with our students.

We have worked hard to ensure that, as much as is reasonably possible, it is easier and more affordable for a student to comply with the uniform policy than not. We will take this into account when enforcing the policy.

Although we have tried to make this policy as clear as we can, we strongly encourage parents and carers who are unsure whether an item of clothing, a hairstyle, a piercing etc. will be acceptable to contact their Student Welfare Officer for clarification before purchase.

The Uniform Policy and approved list is agreed by the Leadership Team and Local Governing Body of Dawlish College and published on the website. This is reviewed annually.