

RIPLEY ST THOMAS

CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMY

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19th July 2021

Dear parent/carers,

Uniform and Appearance

I am writing to you with information and guidance on our uniform and appearance policy, ahead of September. As a school we pride ourselves on our high standards and expectations and in particular how smart our young people look. We want to work with you to ensure this is always the case going into the 21-22 academic year.

School uniform plays an important role in establishing the ethos of a school and is strongly encouraged by the DfE. At Ripley we believe that our Uniform and Appearance policy benefits the school in a number of ways:

- It encourages pupils to identify with the school and nurtures the notion of community
- It protects children from social pressures to dress in a particular way
- It supports discipline and good behaviour
- It instils a sense of pride in the school
- It promotes more effective teaching and learning
- It is not a prohibitive factor for any family applying for admission to Ripley

The appearance of pupils is also an important factor at Ripley in promoting good behaviour and ensuring the health and safety of pupils and staff. The Uniform and Appearance Policy will be strictly enforced. Every opportunity will be given for pupils to conform to the uniform policy and rectify any identified issues.

The table below provides detailed guidance in particular key areas of focus for September:

Aspect of Uniform and Appearance	Expectation/Acceptable
Haircuts	Haircuts must be neat and tidy and of natural colour. Long hair must be tied back for safety reasons in certain subject areas. Haircuts must not be shorter than a 'number 2' overall. Short hairstyles may be blended smartly and neatly down to a 'number 1' <u>at the back</u> (but not shorter).
Jewellery	One wrist watch is allowed in school – no other jewellery is acceptable.
Skirts	Grey, pleated skirt with Ripley St Thomas logo. Skirts should sit just above the knee. Extremely short skirts or rolled up skirts are not acceptable. The academy is the final arbiter in decisions about skirt length.
Shoes	Traditional flat, black shoes. No trainers are allowed unless for a specific medical reason which has been verified following contact with school.
Socks and tights	Plain black ankle or knee-length socks. Plain black, opaque tights.

Believe.....

In addition to the above focus areas, it is expected that our young people continue to wear their year group lanyards in September.

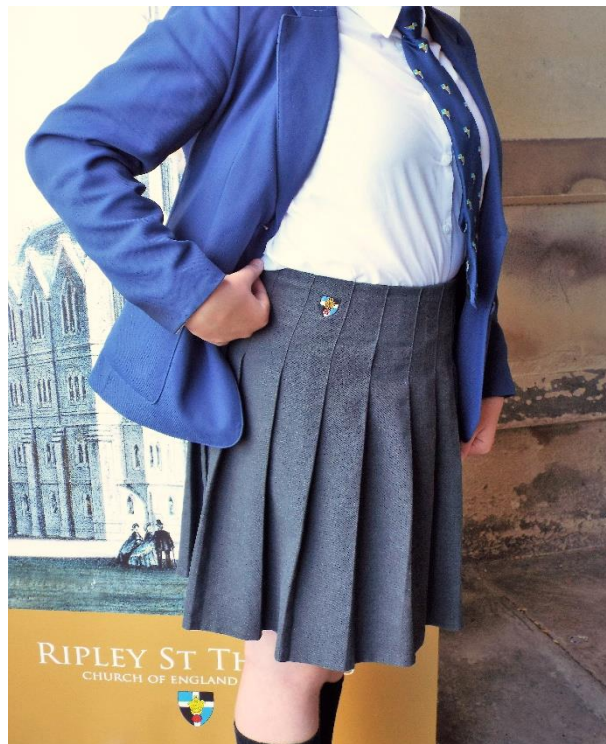
The academy is always the final arbiter of what constitutes appropriate and acceptable dress and appearance. Our experience is that we prevent misunderstandings by being very precise about our requirements. We will assist and support with any issues or queries surrounding the buying of new uniform ready for September – please contact your child's Progress Leader/Assistant Progress Leader in the first instance via parentline. Attached are several visual examples of how uniform should look at Ripley St Thomas.

Yours sincerely,

Mr P. Wilson
Assistant Principal



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