

RIPLEY ST THOMAS

A CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMY



Uniform and appearance policy (Years 7 – 11 only) From September 2024

Originator	K Benter
Reviewed	September 2023
Interim Review	February 2024
Next Review Date	September 2025

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An Education for Life

UNIFORM AND APPEARANCE POLICY

Introduction and Principles

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 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 Government, although it has published guidance, has made it clear that it is for the school's Governing Body to decide whether there should be a uniform and other rules relating to appearance, and if so, what they should be. Therefore this document seeks to clarify the Governors' expectations at Ripley with regard to uniform and appearance.

An actual list of the acceptable, not acceptable and supplementary items pupils are permitted to wear is within this document. This includes particular items parents can apply to the Headteacher for permission to wear. A judgement will be made with regard to any request based on whether the item is in sympathy with the Christian ethos of the school or any other judgement including health or safety. The Headteacher in consultation with pastoral colleagues will consider each application and reach a decision as soon as possible but until such time as a decision is made the item should not be worn for school.

Parents/Guardians are asked to contact us if they are in any doubt about any item of uniform or issue of presentation for their child so that they can clarify what is acceptable before agreeing to permanent or semi-permanent changes in appearances or sending the child to school wearing those items of which they are unsure.

Uniform requirements

As part of our commitment to equality, diversity and inclusion we are always willing to speak to pupils to find a solution which works for both them and the school, in line with our high expectations.

School Uniform

- Royal blue blazer *
- School tie (*clip on style*) *
- Grey skirt - Any grey wide pleated skirt. Please note skirts must be of an acceptable length. The school skirt with the logo * is optional
- Black tailored school trousers. Please note that fashion, tight, flared, cotton drill, jeans-style or styles with patch/combat type pockets are not acceptable.
- White shirt / blouse (to be worn with tie)
- Black tank top (optional) *
- Black opaque tights, black knee high or black ankle socks (with skirt) or black socks (with trousers). No bows or frills
- Black shoes
- Black or blue hair bands / bobbles

P.E. and Games Equipment

- Red mid-layer (*Yrs 9-11 may continue to wear the hoody*) (optional) *
- Red polo shirt * (*Yrs 9-11 may continue to wear navy blue polo shirt*)
- Reversible rugby shirt * (boys curriculum only)
- Navy Blue P.E. Skort or Navy Shorts with logo *
- Leggings with logo (optional) *
- Blue tracksuit bottoms with logo * (optional)
- Red hockey or red football socks
- Football boots (or rugby boots for boys curriculum only)
- Trainers (no canvas shoes)
- Swimsuit (1 piece) / swimming trunks
- Swimming hat
- Towel

It is expected that all pupils bring their full PE kit and get changed for PE lessons whether they are taking an active part in the lesson or not.

School clothing marked * can be purchased either through our supplier The Uniform & Leisurewear Co. Lancaster, Morecambe & Garstang shops (01524 388355) (www.ualonline.uk) or from summer term 2024 through Truxtex (www.truxtex.com)
Items are embroidered with the school crest or logo where applicable.

School P.E. sportswear marked * can only be purchased through our supplier The Uniform & Leisurewear Co. Lancaster, Morecambe & Garstang shops (01524 388355) (www.ualonline.uk). Items are embroidered with the school crest or logo where applicable.

Detailed Guidance

We give below some notes for guidance and clarification. School uniform lists can sometimes seem over detailed and over particular. Our experience is that we prevent misunderstandings by being very precise about our requirements. We of course do not wish for parents to spend money on items we do not allow to be worn. The full support of parents is expected with regards to their children wearing the correct uniform.

	Acceptable	Not Acceptable
Blazer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Ripley St Thomas blazer <p>Please note that blazers must be worn at all times unless specific permission has been given by a member of staff for it to be taken off</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No blazer - Pushed up or rolled up sleeves - Any other garment other than school tank top and shirt underneath e.g. no hoodies allowed
Tie	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ School tie ✓ Any specialist tie awarded from subject areas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No tie
Trousers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Plain black ✓ Tailored, straight leg ✓ Full length ✓ Any belts should be black with discreet buckles 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fashion trousers (tight, flared, denim or corduroy) - Studs, visible buttons, patch pockets or trimmings - Shorts/leggings
Skirts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Grey pleated skirt with or without the Ripley St Thomas logo ✓ Skirts should sit on or just above the knee <p>When buying, please allow for growth throughout the year</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Very short skirts - Rolled up skirts - Embellishments on skirts
Shirts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Plain white school shirt or blouse ✓ Tucked in always and buttoned up at the neck. Please allow for growth throughout the year 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Casual/fashion shirts - Shirts worn without a Ripley St Thomas tie - Shirts worn outside of trousers
Shoes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Traditional black, flat shoes ✓ Black shoes should be worn on the way to and from school 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sports shoes or any form of trainers - Heeled shoes no higher than 3cm - Stilettos - Ballet/Dolly shoes - Boots - Canvas shoes <p>Students will be asked to correct their footwear if not appropriate</p>

		and the school can provide items, if needs be, for however long is necessary
Socks and tights	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Plain black ankle or knee-length socks ✓ Plain black, opaque tights 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Coloured or patterned socks - White socks - Over the knee socks - Trainer socks - Sports socks - Socks with frills/bows
Hair	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Neat and tidy ✓ Natural colour ✓ If hair is long, it is essential it is tied back, for reasons of health and safety, in some practical lessons (e.g. PE, Science, Art and Technology) ✓ Hair accessories must be Ripley colours (black or blue) and discreet ✓ Hair must not cover the face 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Extreme styles (please do ask in advance if you require further guidance) - Tram lines, asymmetric styles or other shaved styles - Unnatural colour and two-tone colour - Hair extensions - Very short hair – less than a 'number 2' overall - Short hairstyles may be blended smartly and neatly down to a 'number 1' at the back - Facial hair is not permitted, e.g. no long side burns, beards or moustaches. Pupils should be clean shaven
Make-up		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Make up of any kind - Nail varnish - Artificial nails, nail extensions or gel colour - False eyelashes - Tinted eyebrows - Fake tan - Tattoos of any kind
Jewellery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ One wristwatch 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Any jewellery other than stated will be confiscated - We discourage the use of smart watches. If smart watches are used for communicating, they will be confiscated in line with the mobile devices policy
Lanyard	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Lanyard displayed and worn each day 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No lanyard – Please visit the uniform room before registration

Breaches of Policy

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.

U1 sanctions are given for breaches of the Uniform and Appearance policy. Two or more U1 sanctions in a week will lead to an Academy lunch detention. Sanctions will be increased for persistent offenders, as explained in the Behaviour Policy.

The Headteacher or member of the senior leadership team may ask a pupil to go home briefly to remedy a serious breach of the school's rules on appearance or uniform. This will count as an authorised absence for as long as the absence is strictly necessary. The parent/guardian of the child will be contacted in this instance. If it is not possible for pupils to go home to change they will have lessons in the Reflection Centre until such time as they conform to the policy.

Schools can refuse to allow a pupil to come into school for failing to wear the uniform or maintain the appearance required by the school. This is not an exclusion. An exclusion is refusing to admit to the school; in the case of a breach of uniform the school is willing to admit the pupil but insist that they are properly dressed.

The academy is always the final arbiter of what constitutes appropriate and acceptable dress and appearance.

Items that require written permission from the Headteacher

Kippah (Jewish pupils)	Royal blue or black
Head scarf (Muslim pupils)	Royal blue or black head scarf
Turban (Sikh pupils)	Royal blue or black