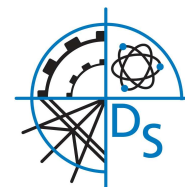


DENEFIELD SCHOOL GOVERNORS

SCHOOL UNIFORM POLICY



Status – recommended

Purpose

- 1.1 The Governors believe that a smart school uniform for students in Years 7-11 and a dress code for students in the Sixth Form are an essential part of the ethos of the school and help to promote a good working environment.
- 1.2 The Governors believe that uniform should be inclusive at all levels – socially, culturally and religiously. It should promote high aspirations, including high standards of achievement and behaviour. It should promote safety in that uniform should aid identification of students (and by implication identifying those who are not students) and should consist of clothing and accessories that are practical and safe for use in school. As far as possible, uniform should be easily available at moderate cost.
- 1.3 Through our uniform and dress code we aim to:
 - encourage pride in the school
 - encourage identity with, and support for, the school ethos
 - support effective learning and teaching
 - support positive behaviour and discipline
 - enable students to be comfortable, safe and secure
 - protect students from social pressures to dress in a particular way
 - ensure that students from different social, religious and ethnic groups feel welcome
 - nurture cohesion and promote good relations between different groups of students.

Who/what was consulted

- 2.1 In determining the uniform and any changes that might follow, the Governors will seek the views of:
 - students
 - parents
 - staff
 - the Headteacher

Role of Governors

- 3.1 Governors accept their responsibilities under the Sex Discrimination Act 1975, Race Relations Act 1976, Human Rights Act 1998, Disability Discrimination Act 1995, the Equalities Acts 2010 and 2006 and the Equality Act (Sexual Orientation) Regulations 2007.
- 3.2 Governors appreciate that the school uniform should not discriminate on grounds of race, religion, sex and culture.

Role of the Headteacher

- 4.1 It is the Headteacher's responsibility to ensure that the Governors' School Uniform Policy is implemented and maintained. The Headteacher will be the final arbiter in any questions of compliance.
- 4.2 The Headteacher may delegate particular responsibilities concerning school uniform to members of staff.

Role of staff

- 5.1 Tutors are responsible for monitoring uniform and following up any issues of non-compliance.
- 5.2 All staff have a responsibility for ensuring that students are correctly dressed in lessons and around the school site as well as on those educational visits where uniform is a requirement.

Role of students

- 6.1 A high standard of personal appearance is expected of all students; they are expected to dress in accordance with the relevant guidance for their year group.
- 6.2 Students should raise any issues with their tutor or Asst Head I/C Sixth Form; they may also request that uniform/dress matters, including proposals for change, be put onto the agenda of School Council meetings.

Role of parents

- 7.1 Parents have a responsibility to ensure that their children come to school appropriately dressed, in compliance with the Policy.
- 7.2 Parents who withhold their child from school because of a disagreement about School Uniform Policy render themselves open to prosecution because the absence will not be authorised by the school.

Enforcement

- 8.1 For minor breaches of School Uniform Policy, staff may use some or all of the following sanctions:
- A student may be required to remove excess items of jewellery or non-compliant clothing if this can be done safely and decently. Students may also be required to change into the emergency footwear provided by the school if they are wearing boots, trainers or any other type of inappropriate shoes.
 - The students may be warned that their current dress is inappropriate and given a time limit to correct this (e.g. you must come in correct uniform tomorrow; within a week you must obtain correct footwear).
 - The student may be isolated from mainstream classes, including break and lunchtimes, until they agree to comply with the uniform rules.
 - The student may be sent home to change into proper school uniform or to dress properly.
- 8.2 If this occurs it should be made absolutely clear that this is not an exclusion and the student is welcome back in school properly dressed in accordance with the schools rules. This should be presented positively to the parent and the student should not be punished further if they return with the matter satisfactorily resolved, unless there were other breaches of school rules involved in the student's defiance. In this case, failure to comply with the School Uniform Policy will be seen as a breach of school rules and dealt with through the Behaviour and Discipline Policy.
- 8.3 Where there are severe breaches of School Uniform Policy, the student should be sent home as soon as is practical. A student must not be sent home unless parental contact can be established and either the parent collects the student or agrees that the student should make their own way home. If this is not possible, then the student may be held in isolation until the end of the school day. Again, it is emphasised that sending a student home is not an exclusion.

Sixth Form dress and non-uniform days (Years 7 – 11)

- 9.1 Sixth Formers are not required to wear uniform, but are required to wear business dress, to reflect their more senior status in school. In addition, non-uniform days are occasionally used to raise charitable funds for national and international good causes. In these circumstances, the clothing worn by students must still comply with the following principles:
- It must be safe and practical for school use.
 - It must not promote unacceptable messages – drugs, violence, racism etc. The Headteacher, or his representative, will decide on limits of acceptability.
 - It must not conceal identity.
 - It must not be indecent.

Complaints

- 10.1 Any complaints about school uniform, dress codes or other aspects of appearance should be made in the first instance to the Headteacher.
- 10.2 If the complaint is not satisfactorily resolved, the complaint should be brought to the attention of the Governing Body through the Clerk to the Governing Body. The Governing Body's decision will be final.
- 10.3 Governors will not hear complaints against staff relating to fair enforcement of the policy.
- 10.4 Requests to vary the uniform requirements for particular reasons, such as medical or religious needs, will always be considered carefully.

Arrangements for monitoring and evaluation

- 11.1 Our uniform policy is reviewed annually; the review includes consideration of uniform items, supply, cost and value for money. Parents, students and staff are consulted regularly and no less frequently than every three years.

Relationship to other policies

- 12.1 This policy should be read in conjunction with the school's Behaviour and Discipline Policy.

Date established by Governing Body: 28.4.10

Date for full implementation: September 2010

Reviewed: January 2012

Date for next review: January 2013

Denefield School Uniform and Sixth Form Dress Code

Denefield School has its own distinctive uniform. There are good reasons for this. The most important is that our students come from a wide variety of backgrounds and uniform helps us create a sense of our school as a community. Moreover, smart appearance is very important for student's self esteem and this will inevitably have an impact on their behaviour and the quality of their learning. Some of our students, understandably, like to show they can keep up with the latest trends in teenage fashions. This puts other students, and their parents who have limited resources, under unnecessary pressure. A school uniform removes these distractions and allows students to concentrate on their learning. We ask parents to resist reacting to each change of fashion where school uniform and hairstyles are concerned. Often what is fashionable is unsuitable for wearing at school. We have kept our uniform as simple as we can with the maximum number of standard items easily obtainable at reasonable prices through our uniform suppliers, Price & Buckland, or Jacksons in Reading town centre.

All items of clothing and equipment should be clearly named.

Designer logos and fashion items are not acceptable.

Students also need a bag that is big enough to take text books, exercise books and folders up to A4 size.

Jumper

V-neck, long sleeved or sleeveless, black with electric blue trim and school logo.

Cardigan

Long sleeved, black with electric blue trim and school logo.

Jumpers or cardigans other than the uniform versions must not be brought to school.

Polo shirt

White with electric blue trim and school logo.

Trousers

Plain black, ankle length, suitable for business wear.

Jeans, flares or tight trousers are not allowed.

Skirt

Plain black, not tight or split, no more than 8cm above or below the knee.

Socks/tights

Socks must be black or white, tights must be black or natural.

Socks and tights may not be worn together.

Shoes

Plain black. Heels should be of a sensible height to ensure safety when moving around the school. Doctors have recommended no more than 4 cm.

Boots are not acceptable. Trainers are not part of normal uniform and may only be worn during PE lessons.

Outdoor coats

An outdoor coat in a plain, medium to dark colour would be most appropriate.

Leather/designer coats are a security risk for which the school cannot be held responsible.

'Hoodies' and denim jackets are not acceptable as an alternative to a coat.

PE kit

For reasons of safety and hygiene, students must wear appropriate kit for the activity they are undertaking.

Boys:

Reversible black/electric blue sports shirt with school logo
Black/electric blue polo shirt with school logo
Black shorts
Black sports trousers with electric blue piping (optional)
Black football/rugby socks
Football/rugby boots
Trainers

Girls:

Reversible black/electric blue sports shirt with school logo
Black/electric blue polo shirt with school logo
Black shorts or 'skort'
Black sports trousers with electric blue piping (optional)
Black football/hockey socks
Football boots
Trainers

Jewellery

Nothing of any great value should be worn as the school cannot take responsibility for its loss. Items should be discreet and students should not wear anything that could be a danger in lessons such as PE, science or technology. Students may wear one necklace, one bracelet, one ring, one pair of ear studs maximum.

No facial jewellery, other than studs in ears, may be worn.

Make-up

Girls may wear a discreet amount of make-up, but this should not be obvious.

Nail varnish should not be coloured.

Hairstyles

Parents are asked to help us maintain the right atmosphere in school by encouraging hairstyles that are appropriate for a place of work.

Extreme hair colours and styles are not acceptable.

Non-compliance

The wearing of correct uniform is compulsory and students who do not comply with our expectations will not be allowed to participate in lessons. Students, at the discretion of the Headteacher, will be sent home to change. A student arriving in school in incorrect uniform, for whatever reason, will be given a detention and parents will be contacted to address ongoing issues.

Sixth Form

In recognition of their greater maturity and more senior status within the school, Sixth Form students are not required to wear uniform. They are, however, expected to wear formal dress suitable for the workplace and not wear items of clothing or jewellery which may cause offence to other members of the school community. It is hoped that Sixth Form students will be sensible and self regulating in the choice of clothing that they wear to school. However, if dress is considered inappropriate then the student will be asked to go home to change into more appropriate clothing. Hair and make-up should also contribute to a smart appearance for the workplace.

Sixth Form students may not wear facial jewellery, other than ear studs or earrings.