



Meopham School

School Uniform and Equipment Guide

Equalities Statement

In our Trust we work to ensure that there is equality of opportunity for all members of our community who hold a range of protected characteristics as defined by the Equality Act 2010, as well as having regard to other factors which have the potential to cause inequality, such as socio-economic factors. For further information, please see our Equalities Policy.

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1. Uniform expectations

We believe that high standards of uniform and presentation play a key role in setting our students up for long-term success. Dressing smartly isn't simply about following rules; it develops pride, self-respect, and a professional mindset - attributes that will serve our young people brilliantly in interviews, workplaces, and adult life.

Just as importantly, our uniform reinforces our shared identity and ensures that every child belongs to the Meopham School community on equal footing. Thank you for your continued partnership in helping our students arrive each day ready to learn and proud to represent their school.

2. School uniform for KS3 and KS4 students

Blazer (Mandatory) Purchase anywhere or from Monkhouse. (Badge available from school).	Black, with an embroidered school badge on the pocket. Loose badges to attach to a blazer are available directly from the school, payment is via the parent pay account. Parents are able to buy a blazer with a Meopham School logo embroidered on from Monkhouse. https://www.monkhouse.com/school/meopham-school-urn-139075
School Tie (Mandatory) Purchase from school.	Meopham School tie (black with gold stripe) is available directly from school, payment is via the parent pay account.
Shirt (Mandatory) Purchase anywhere	Plain white, long or short sleeved with a standard collar and top button. To be worn tucked in and with the school tie. Any clothing worn under the shirt must not show above the collar or have wording or logos that are visible through the material of the shirt.
Trousers or Skirt (Mandatory) Purchase anywhere	Plain black straight school trousers (no jeans or fashion trousers) or plain black, a-line, pleated, knee length skirt. No stretch fabric or pencil style skirts. Skirts are not to be worn rolled at the waist. Belts may be worn if required but must not have a fashion buckle. https://www.monkhouse.com/banner-designer-pleated-skirt-10000000260bk
School Jumper (Optional) Purchase anywhere	Plain black woolen v-neck (no sweatshirts, logos or chunky-knit). Jumpers are the only permitted additional item of clothing for extra warmth. Jumpers should not be tied at the back or tucked in.
Footwear (Mandatory) Purchase anywhere	Black leather, or vegan alternative, school shoes. Trainers of any kind are not permitted, this includes Nike black trainers. Any shoes with sports logos on are considered to be trainers. Plain black short socks or black opaque tights. (Knee high socks/frills/ bows, or socks with sports logos are not permitted.)
Coats (Optional) Purchase anywhere	Coats are weatherproof garments to be worn <u>over the top of the blazer, not instead of</u> . Hoodies, tracksuit tops, and sweatshirts are not part of the school uniform and are not acceptable.

PE Kit (Mandatory) Official items come from the online shop	Compulsory items: https://www.kitlocker.com/education/school/meopham-school T-shirt: Official school PE T-shirt with the school logo. Must fit appropriately. Shorts: Official school PE shorts with the school logo,. Must fit appropriately. Footwear: Appropriate sports trainers. Football boots for winter sports (long metal studs are not permitted). Socks: Standard socks for indoor sports. Black football socks for football and rugby. Other items: Shin pads. Gum shield (for students in year 8-10 who choose to take part in contact rugby).
PE Kit (Optional) Official items come from kitlocker online shop	Optional additional items (all items worn in PE must be part of the uniform range): 1/4 zip sweatshirt or round neck sweatshirt: Official school PE 1/4 zip or round neck sweatshirt with the school logo. Rain jacket: Official school PE rain jacket with the school logo. Joggers: Official school PE joggers with the school logo. Leggings: Official school PE leggings with the school logo. Grip socks: In dance and gymnastics lessons students are required to go bare foot or have the option to wear appropriate grip socks for sport/physical activity. Strictly not permitted: Hoodies. Branded sportswear or clothing that is not part of our uniform range. Clothing of colours other than black. Clothing which does not fit appropriately. Skorts. Winter / School jackets/coats.
School Bag (Mandatory) Purchase anywhere	Students must have a school bag (i.e. rucksack style) in which to carry the essential equipment they require for their lessons - this must be a plain black bag. Handbags are not school bags. https://ozschoolwear.co.uk/product/stealth-backpack/
Essential Equipment (Mandatory) Purchase anywhere	Students will require the following equipment: black or blue writing pens, a green pen, a ruler, a rubber, a scientific calculator, some HB pencils, a black whiteboard marker pen.
Other Equipment (Optional) Purchase anywhere	Optional but useful items for a pencil case would include: A highlighter, or two, some colouring pencils and a glue stick. (such as Pritt) No Tippex or similar correcting fluids are to be brought into school.

Please ensure that all clothing is named, so items can be returned if lost.

3. Makeup

Acceptable	Unacceptable
Subtle application of concealer or foundation to cover blemishes or spots	Fake tan
Natural nails	Any form of fake nails or polish. (please ensure nails are returned to natural state following any holidays)
Natural eyelashes	Any form of unnatural eyelashes or mascara.
Natural eyebrows	Eyeliner and eyeshadow.

4. Hair and Jewellery

- Students may wear **a single small, plain gold or silver stud earring** in each earlobe. No other earring styles are permitted e.g. drop earrings, hoops, diamante, shapes, or multiple earrings.
- **No other jewellery is to be worn by students in school.** This includes other ear, nose, tongue and any other piercings, as well as necklaces and bracelets.
- Hairbands can be used to tie back long hair, but fashion hair accessories are not acceptable.
- Hair must be of natural colour. Hair styles must be smart and appropriate for school. In particular students must avoid extreme or sharp variations in hair length for fashion effects.

5. Mobile phones, Headphones / Earbuds and Smartwear

- Mobile-phones that are not to be seen in school.
- Mobile phones must be switched off and stored in students' bags when on the school site.
- Headphones and earbuds are not allowed in school.
- Mobile phones, Headphones / Earbuds seen in school will be confiscated.
- **Wearable Technology**—including, but not limited to eye-worn electronics, audio frames, and optical head-mounted displays— are strictly prohibited.
- A wrist watch may be worn. **No Smart-watches.**

Please refer to the school's behaviour policy for more information regarding mobile phones in school

6 . Practical subjects

Students must wear aprons to protect their clothing during practical sessions in Design Technology, and Food Technology. Aprons are provided during these lessons. Long hair must be tied back for practical lessons. On some occasions a change of clothing, a protective apron or goggles are necessary in Art or Science. Students are given advance warning of these sessions.

7. Valuables

No valuables should be brought into school. The school cannot take responsibility for money or valuable personal possessions. For this reason, students should not bring in smart watches, headphones, earbuds, computer games devices, tablets, or other such items. Students may switch off, and carry a mobile phone in their school bag – this is carried at the students' own risk.

8 . Sanctions for incorrect uniform

We expect students to wear their uniform correctly and smartly. Although we will endeavour to remind students of the uniform expectations and ask them to correct items of clothing that are not being worn appropriately.

Any students who arrive at the school gate, to line-ups or to classroom thresholds with incorrect uniform will be issued a C3 detention (15 minutes at Lunchtime). This consequence can be escalated if there are repeated infringements. All students need to ensure that they have the correct uniform before reaching those thresholds. This is to ensure we maintain high standards of uniform throughout the school day.

Where there is an ongoing uniform issue, we will contact parents to discuss our concerns.

Where a uniform issue cannot be rectified, or a student refuses our reasonable offers of support to rectify the uniform issue, we will ask students to work in the Student Support Provision until the issue is resolved. In line with the statutory guidance, we may ask parents / carers to come into school to collect a student in order to rectify a uniform issue - this course of action would generally be a last resort.

Parents / carers are encouraged to contact the school and discuss any barriers to a student wearing their uniform correctly - we will endeavour to provide appropriate support.

9 . Supporting families with the cost of uniform

In line with the Department for Education guidance we have minimised the number of compulsory items that are branded. We have ensured that most of our uniform items are generic, and can therefore be purchased from multiple retailers (our suggested retailers are for information convenience only.) Iron-on blazer-badges have helped to reduce the cost of this high-priced item.

We regularly review our suppliers to ensure they are providing value for money.

We want all of our students to have the same access to an education regardless of socio-economic background. The school has a limited supply of freshly laundered pre-owned items that parents / carers can access. Should this be required at any point during the school year, please contact your child's Head of Year or Mr Whittle - Associate Assistant Headteacher for Pupil Premium - via the Inclusion Contact Form, found here: <https://sites.google.com/swale.at/msscoms/home>

10. Sixth Form Uniform expectations

We recognise that Sixth Form students are preparing for adulthood and we therefore give our Sixth Form students the privilege of choice, provided that their dress is appropriate for an academic, learning environment. Pupils are required to wear office attire. We believe this gives them a good grounding for the expectations they will encounter in their future professional workplace environments.

Student lanyards should be worn around school at all times.

Trousers must be tailored. Jeans, tracksuit bottoms and shorts are NOT permitted.

Skirts or dresses should not be tight fitting or of jersey or stretch fabric, they must be tailored and an appropriate length for a business environment.

Shirts which have a top button and collar must be worn with a tie. Blouses, tailored or smart tops are acceptable. Tops that expose the abdomen or reveal a cleavage are unacceptable as are **strapless, thin strap or backless tops**.

Jackets and Jumpers - Suit jackets, smart blazers or a smart sweatshirt, jumper or cardigan may be worn over the student's shirt/blouse. Hoodies or denim jackets are NOT permitted.

Footwear - Leather or vegan alternative, sensible style shoes. Boots with trousers tucked in or stiletto heels are not acceptable and shoes should not have an open toe/heel. Trainers/canvas shoes of any kind are NOT permitted.

Clothing that features logos, slogans or badges are unacceptable – this does not extend to manufacturers names or small logos that are displayed discreetly.

Hair, Jewellery and Make up - Small items of jewellery can be worn. Unobtrusive make-up is accepted. Hair styles must be smart and appropriate for school.

BTEC Sport students are permitted to wear sports attire when directed to. Hoodies are not acceptable under any circumstances.

11 . Disagreements

In the event of a disagreement over any aspect of the uniform rules, including appropriate hair-styles and application of makeup, the Headteacher's decision is final. We will always explain the reasons for any decisions made. If you are in any doubt regarding the suitability of an item of clothing, hairstyle or application of makeup, please contact your child's Head of Year for clarification.

11 . Reasonable adjustments, SEND, and Equalities Act responsibilities.

We understand that there may be occasions where injury or medical conditions prevent the wearing of the full uniform. In these instances we ask that parents / carers make contact with their Head of Year as soon as possible to discuss any necessary adjustments. Medical evidence will be requested where there is an ongoing medical issue that prevents a student from wearing the correct uniform.

Requests for reasonable adjustments made due to a Special Educational Need or Disability will be assessed by, and agreed with, the school's Inclusion lead.

In line with the Equalities Act 2010, the governing body, the leadership team and staff will ensure there is no variation in the application of the uniform policy in terms of ethnic or national origin, culture, religion, gender, disability or sexuality. Reasonable adjustments may be made where there is a request for an exemption on religious grounds.



Uniform Expectations

Not permitted

- False eyelashes
- False nails
- Nail polish
- Facial piercings
- Rings
- Bracelets
- Necklaces

One silver or gold stud earring in each ear is permitted

Tie - waist length

Black A-line, pleated skirt approaching knee length
(Not stretch fabric or pencil style)
or trousers (no jeans or fashion trousers)

Black school shoes (not trainers)

Top button done up

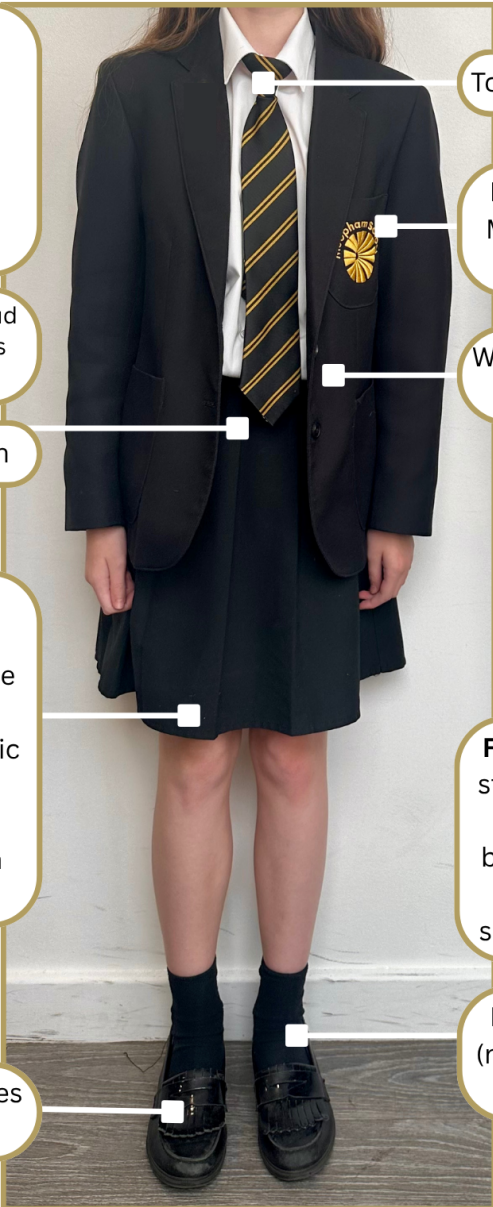
Black blazer with Meopham School badge

White collared shirt tucked in



From September, students will need to carry a plain black backpack to carry essential school equipment

Plain black socks (no higher than the ankle) or tights





Uniform Expectations

Not permitted

- False eyelashes
- False nails
- Nail polish
- Facial piercings
- Rings
- Bracelets
- Necklaces

One silver or gold stud earring in each ear is permitted

Tie - waist length

Black School trousers
(no jeans or fashion trousers)

Black school shoes
(not trainers or sports branded)

Top button done up

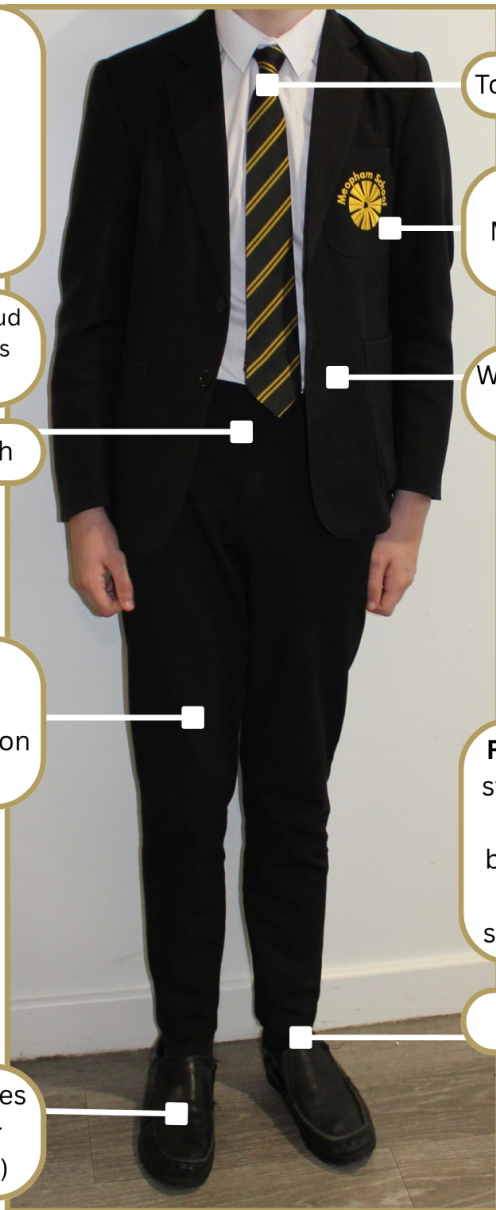
Black blazer with
Meopham School
badge

White collared shirt
tucked in



From September,
students will need
to carry a plain
black backpack to
carry essential
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Plain black socks



Appendix B: School bags - A visual guide



Appendix C: School shoes - A visual guide



Appendix D: Small, plain stud earring - A visual guide

