

D UNIFORM

D-1 An Overview

NB A new uniform is being introduced from September 2020 with a 24 month grace period where the old style uniform and PE kit may still be worn.

Birkdale has a good reputation for the appearance of its pupils and we expect that pupils will wear their uniform with pride.

Clear guidance on uniform is below, and parents are asked to support the school by ensuring that pupils have the right garments and that they wear them neatly. Pupils should normally be in uniform on arrival and departure from school, and for all school activities. Hair styles should be neat and tidy, free from extremes and longer hair should be tied back.

If you require any assistance or advice, please contact the relevant School Office in term-time, or the Bursar's section in the holiday period.

Prep School:	prepschool@birkdalschool.org.uk	0114 267 0407
Senior School:	enquiries@birkdalschool.org.uk	0114 266 8408
Bursar's Department:	accounts@birkdalschool.org.uk	0114 266 8400

All these details are available for reference on the Birkdale website:
www.birkdalschool.org.uk.

D-2 Where do I purchase Birkdale uniform?

Birkdale's School Uniform and PE provider is Schoolblazer and the Games Kit supplier is Tacklebag.

Details are below:

www.schoolblazer.com

From 26 June 2020 Schoolblazer will be the supplier of the school's uniform and PE kit. Schoolblazer offer a fully online ordering and delivery service. The website will take you through a step by step process to ensure sizing is accurate. They have a free returns policy. Schoolblazer offer a name taping service whereby garments can be issued with your child's name sewn into items before dispatch. This does not affect returns. Schoolblazer have a customer helpline tel. 0333 7000 703 if you have any individual questions regarding uniform that cannot be resolved via the website.

www.tacklebag.co.uk

The Games Kit is supplied by Tacklebag, an online ordering service.

D-3 Sales of Second Hand Uniform

Occasional sales of second hand uniform and sportswear are held in aid of the Friends of Birkdale School (FOBS). Details of second hand sales will be sent out via BirkdalePost.

D-4 Naming of items

All pupils must have all their garments clearly marked with name tapes to reduce loss and discourage indiscriminate borrowing. Shoes should be marked with a name tape attached with a special adhesive or with a permanent marker.

D-5 Senior School: S1 – S5

Compulsory from Schoolblazer

- School Blazer
- School Tie
- School Jumper
- School Trousers
- Crested PE Shirt and shorts (for PE and summer sports)

Further Compulsory items

(Some of these items are available via Schoolblazer, but can be bought elsewhere.)

- Shirt: white, long or short sleeved with collar
- Socks: grey or black
- Coat: plain and single colour
- Shoes: plain black leather (not trainers or other casual shoes)
- Socks, white – for PE / Summer Games
- Gym or training shoes (non-marking soles) – for sports
- Specialist footwear as appropriate eg. Football /rugby /hockey boots.

Compulsory from Tacklebag

- Waterproof Top
- Stadium Pants: (tracksuit bottoms)
- Reversible Jersey
- Rugby Shorts: navy blue with school crest.
- School Colours Sports Socks

Tacklebag also offer a range of optional items: Baselayer (top/leggings) / Hoody / Beanie Hat / Sports Bag

Other items

- Swimming trunks/ Swimsuit: Good notice is given by Sports staff if pupils will require-these.
- Cricket whites (shirt/sweater/long trousers) are compulsory for boys selected for school matches.

D-6 Sixth Form Uniform

The Sixth Form are required to wear a smart business suit.

Compulsory item available from the School.

- A Sixth Form Tie is required for students wearing a male fit suit – further details on purchase will be sent to parents.

Further Compulsory items

(Available from many High Street stores.)

Suit: dark navy or black. Either trouser or skirt option acceptable.

- Matching waistcoats are optional
- Business-style skirts of a length to give a smart, professional appearance at all times, typically no shorter than 2.5 cm above the knee: cotton gabardine type fabric, *not* stretch jersey
- Plain white or light blue shirt or blouse with collar and buttons down the front.
- Shoes smart black, brown or blue leather (no boots, trainers stiletto heels or platform soles)
- Sweater, plain v-neck, dark colour (no hoodies or sweatshirts) (*optional item*)

Sportswear:

- Sixth Form pupils all take part in the Wednesday afternoon Games programme. Details of sports options will be provided in Induction Week, with guidance on requirements for a particular activity. (Further guidance is always available from the Director of Sport, who can be contacted via the school office.)
- Pupils who play for school teams will need the compulsory sports items listed in the Senior School S1-S5 lists.

D-7 Prohibited items

- Footwear without backs (sandals, flip flops)
- Trainers/fashion pumps/boots (including canvas, suede or fabric footwear, Vans, Converse, Decathlon pumps, Ugg boots or Timberland boots)
- Black trainers from sports brands are not allowed as a substitute for school shoes
- Stretchy, fashion or frilly skirts
- Tracksuit bottoms, jeans, combats, chinos, cords, or leggings
- Headwear such as caps and bandanas, with the exception of students whose religion requires covering (e.g. hijabs, turbans), or medical reasons
- Hooded or tracksuit tops are only to be worn for PE/drama activities and **outside** of school
- Outdoor coats should not be worn indoors

D-8 General appearance

- Jewellery and piercings should be kept to a minimum. Permitted items include:
 - a watch
 - one simple ring per hand
 - one pair of plain stud earrings

- Make-up must be subtle
- Hair should not be extreme in terms of style, cut or colour.
- All boys in S1-S5 are required to be clean-shaven. The exception to this is if there are religious grounds for growing a beard but this must then be adhered to and with the support of the pupil's religious leader or parent/carer. We would ask that you inform the Head Master directly if your son is growing a beard for religious observance and all staff will then be notified.

D-9 Uniform non-compliance sanctions

All pupils who are not in full uniform must bring a letter from home explaining why they are not able to wear full uniform and for how long the situation will last. Letters from parents must be shown to the form tutor who will sign the note to acknowledge that it has been seen and agreed.

The following will happen in the event of non-compliance of uniform and appearance expectations:

- Stage 1: Staff warning/discussion with pupil (in the event of skirts being too short the pupil will see the Deputy Headmaster who will provide an alternative skirt for the school day). Non-permissible items will be confiscated for the remainder of the day.
- Stage 2: Persistent disregard will lead to a Friday detention (Parents informed).
- Stage 3: Further ignoring of the school uniform policy will lead to a Saturday detention (Parents informed).
- Stage 4: If the pupil still ignores the uniform policy the pupil will be withdrawn from lessons pending a meeting with parents.
- Stage 5: Sent home on the grounds that it is now deliberate defiance of the school. Parents will be required to come in to discuss the situation.