

School Dress Code

The School Uniform consists of the following:

Black zipped fleece with school logo
Black v-neck jumpers with school logo
Black round-neck sweatshirts with school logo
Grey Polo shirts with school logo or Grey short sleeved Shirts
White Polo shirts with school logo or White short sleeved Shirts
Lilac Polo shirts with school logo or Lilac short sleeved shirts
White or Grey blouses
Black or purple blazer with school logo
Black trousers/knee length or below black skirt
Black shoes or trainers

The shirts and tops are provided by the school. Trousers, skirts and shoes should be provided by the care staff or parents/carers of individual students. Where uniform is lost or damaged a charge may be made for replacement of the item. All uniform should be clearly named using sewn in name tags.

Basic Principles

The school expects that all young people should wear school uniform and should attend school looking smart and clean.

All clothes worn to school must be clean, in good repair, well fitting, and appropriate for season.

Clean means: not having visible stains and has been washed in the last two days.

In good repair means: not having holes, not threadbare, shoes not coming apart, buttons are not missing

Well-fitting means: Trousers are long enough to cover socks and reach shoes and high enough to cover underwear, clothing is not tight or baggy, skirts are around knee length or longer, tops are not low cut/too revealing, stomachs are covered up. Shoes should be of the correct size so that feet do not become sore.

Appropriate for the season means: wearing a jumper or fleece in colder weather; polo shirts and shirts in warmer weather. Shoes worn in winter should be able to withstand a reasonable amount of rain and damp.

Shoes

Appropriate footwear is particularly important as ill-fitting shoes can be the cause of a number of foot complaints. All footwear should follow the general principles above. In addition, there are issues of safety regarding footwear. For example,

heavy boots can cause injury to others if used in an aggressive manner and some sandals can result in a twisted ankle. It is therefore important that young people make appropriate choices when buying shoes they intend to wear in school.

Outdoor clothing (coats, body warmers hats, gloves and scarfs)

It is important that students arrive warm and dry; however, outdoor clothing should be removed in the classroom environment and hung on the hooks provided or on the back of a chair. All classrooms are heated and it would be a very unusual situation for outdoor wear to be needed to keep warm when inside. Hats and caps should be removed as soon as morning assembly starts. Hoodies are not permitted as outdoor wear.

Examples of clothing that should not be worn to school are:

Cargo trousers
Combats
Tracksuits, jogging bottoms (except PE)
Shorts or cut-offs
Short skirts
T-shirts with band logos, slogans etc.
Crop tops, vest tops
Hoodies
Ties
Non-black trainers (except for PE)
Shoes with pointed toes or heels that are too high (over 5cm)
Knee length shorts
Bright and fluorescent colours

However, this list is not exhaustive

Hair

Hair should be clean and tidy (brushed) and although it is accepted that some young people wish to colour their hair, dyes should be natural tones (brown, black, auburn etc.) and not bright non-natural colours such as pink, blue, red, peroxide blonde etc. Extreme hairstyles are not permitted and advice should be sought before any decision is made.

Jewellery

Jewellery raises issues of Health and Safety which also apply to staff as well as the young people attending the school. For this reason young people are discouraged from wearing jewellery. Nose rings/studs, belly button rings or any other body piercing rings are not allowed to be worn. If young people already have an ear piercing, they may wear one retaining stud in each ear (see Children's Guide). Watches, rings and necklaces will be considered on an individual basis.

Tattoos

Students attending the school are not permitted to have tattoos. Staff should ensure any tattoos they may have are covered.

Physical Education (PE)

Students and staff are expected to change for PE lessons unless the exercise involved is of a very low level.

Suitable PE wear is:

Jogging bottoms or loose fitting shorts.
T shirts with sleeves (not vest style)
Sweatshirt (not hoodie style)
Non marking trainers

PE is timetabled such that students can change at the sports centre or at the house group at lunchtime prior to an afternoon session.

The basic principles above also apply to PE clothing. All jewellery and watches should be removed for PE lessons for health and safety reasons.

Protective clothing for specialist activities

Protective aprons for lessons such as science, design and technology, craft, pottery, art and food technology are provided and students are expected to wear these when asked.

Post 16 provision Dress Code

Within the post 16 provision the dress code is 'Smart Casual' and is intended to strike a balance between individuality and the need to fit into the school as a wider community. We expect students to make sensible, reasoned decisions about what is appropriate and what is not.

The phrase 'smart casual' can mean different things to different people, so below is a guide to help you make appropriate choices.

Please note – if students are part of the post 16 provision due to individualised timetable and educational needs the post 16 dress code still applies.

- As a general rule clothes should be well fitting, clean and without holes or frayed edges. Well-fitting means your underwear is covered, not too short in length (skirts /dresses) and tops have sleeves and also cover stomach and chest areas. Colours should not be too bright and any patterns discreet.
- Trousers should be plain in colour. Smart black jeans are permitted but not blue jeans.
- Skirts/dresses should be no shorter than mid-thigh length; they can be worn with leggings.
- Tops, shirts and blouses should have a collar.
- Jumpers and sweatshirts should be worn as needed.
- Shoes should be plain and suitable to walk around the school site. Heavy boots are not suitable within the environment of Mulberry.
- Coats should be plain, provide suitable protection from the weather and be taken off in class. Hats should also be taken off when inside, but can be worn outside and are advisable if very cold or wet.
- Hoodies: It is preferable that students do not wear hoodies to Mulberry; however, if worn they should have no more than one discrete logo, be plain in colour, be neatly presented. The hood should be worn down unless being worn outdoors and it is raining or cold.

Some points regarding appropriate hair style, make up, fashion items and jewellery.

- Please avoid wearing clothing with offensive/suggestive or over large slogans on clothing or fashion items such as chains or large belts.
- Jewellery can be worn but the amount should be suitable for a learning environment. There is no exact amount that can be worn but guidance is up to six items (necklaces, bracelets and rings) plus stud earrings and a watch. However, any item should not be of a size that could be dangerous for others, e.g. large rings.
- Exaggerated hair styles, haircuts and unnatural hair colours are not suitable
- Make up and perfume should be discrete so that it is not overpowering for others within the room.