

St Bede's Catholic Voluntary Academy



Uniform and Equipment Policy

"We commit ourselves to love, respect and serve one another as disciples of Jesus Christ"

Date of approval	July 2026
Date of review	September 2027

Our School Uniform: Promoting Identity, Equity and Excellence

A shared uniform helps our community live out our mission to “love, respect and serve one another as disciples of Jesus Christ”. By dressing in a consistent and dignified way, pupils show respect for themselves, respect for others, and respect for the learning environment. Wearing the uniform with pride reminds every child that they belong to something greater than themselves — a community rooted in Gospel values. It promotes fairness, reduces social pressure, and encourages pupils to focus on character, conduct and service rather than appearance. In this way, our uniform becomes a daily expression of unity, humility and readiness to serve one another.

We work closely with our uniform supplier to review the cost of uniform annually, ensuring it remains reasonable and offers the best possible value for money for families. We understand that quality and durability are as important as affordability. High-quality garments not only represent better value over time but are also more sustainable and environmentally responsible.

Branded Items and Government Guidance

In accordance with the Department for Education’s statutory guidance, from September 2026 all schools will be legally required to limit compulsory branded items to a maximum of four.

Our four compulsory branded items are:

- The **school tie**
- The **blazer with school badge (Y7-10) and school jumper (Y11)**
- The **school skirt**
- The **PE shirt**

These have been carefully selected to preserve our school’s identity while complying with the legal requirement. Additional branded items are available but are not compulsory.

Uniform Supplier

For specific uniform items the school has a designated supplier, Shah’s. Purchasing from our approved supplier is strongly recommended to ensure items meet the correct specification. Shah’s offers:

- Online ordering via: <https://www.shahsuniform.co.uk/st-bedes-catholic-voluntary-academy-school-uniform>
- The opportunity to visit their shop, where they offer fitting. Shah’s can be found at: 109-111 West Street, Scunthorpe. DN15 6EQ. Please call (01724) 844934 for details of opening times.

The school follows a competitive procurement process, with the contract re-tendered at least every five years. This ensures the best value for families, consistent product availability throughout the year.

For non-branded items families are welcome to purchase items from a supplier of your choice.





Support for Families

We are committed to making school uniform accessible to all. The school provides additional support to eligible families and maintains a regular supply of high-quality second-hand uniform, available for any parent who wishes to make use of it. All pre-worn items are checked to ensure they meet our standards.







Parents wishing to access second-hand uniform or enquire about financial support should contact the school reception.

The school encourages parents to make use of Vinted, Facebook marketplace etc to source good quality and affordable second-hand items.

St Bede's Academy Uniform




Item	Picture	Description	Notes and Exclusions
Compulsory branded items			
Tie		School tie.	<p>The school tie is a clip-on tie. The colour of the tie is determined by the House of the student:</p> <p>Red: Allen House Blue: Manning House Yellow: Newman House Green: Vaughan House Orange: Wiseman House</p> <p>Students who joined the school before September 2026 can wear the traditional tie. In this case, it must be tied in a single knot, large end of the tie showing, with 5 or more stripes on display.</p>
Years 7-10 Blazer		Green Blazer.	<p>The school blazer is a compulsory part of the school uniform for students in Years 7 – 10 only.</p> <p>The school blazer must be worn at all times inside the school building and may only be removed with the permission of a member of staff. Sleeves should remain worn down and not rolled up.</p> <p>The only badges permitted on the blazer are those awarded by the school, such as achievement or commendation badges. No other badges are permitted.</p>
Year 11 School Jumper		Green Jumper	<p>The Year 11 school jumper is a compulsory part of the school uniform for students in Year 11 only.</p> <p>The school jumper must be worn at all times inside the school building and may only be removed with the permission of a member of staff. Sleeves should remain worn down and not rolled up. They must not be tucked into skirts or trousers or altered in any way.</p> <p>The Year 11 school jumper must display the school badge.</p> <p>The only badges permitted on the jumper are those awarded by the school, such as achievement or commendation badges. No other badges are permitted.</p>
Skirt		Branded school skirt	<p>Belts must not be worn with school skirts, and skirts must not be rolled up.</p> <p>If students wear a skirt they must wear tights, please see tights section below.</p>

Compulsory non-branded items and uniform expectations

Shirt		White traditional school shirt with formal collar. Long or short sleeves.	<p>Three-quarter length sleeves and tailored shirts are not permitted. Students must wear standard, full-length sleeved shirts (long sleeved or short sleeved).</p> <p>The top button must be fastened at all times, and shirts must be tucked into skirts or trousers at all times, including during break and lunch periods.</p>
Trousers		Black classic cut trousers.	<p>Trousers must be worn securely at the waist, and undergarments must not be visible above the waistband under any circumstances. A plain black belt, with a plain simple buckle can be worn.</p> <p>Trousers should cover the sock.</p> <p>Skinny fit, flared, boot-cut, ribbed, cropped and barrel style trousers are not permitted.</p> <p>Students are not under any circumstances allowed to wear leggings or denim/chinos in place of trousers.</p>
Jumper		Green Jumper.	<p>Jumpers are optional for all students in Year 7-10, if you wish to wear a jumper, this must be the official school jumper which can be purchased from Shah's.</p> <p>Only school jumpers may be worn, and they must not be tucked into skirts or trousers or altered in any way, including being tied in a knot at the back. Jumpers must always be worn with the blazer, and the tie must remain clearly visible underneath.</p>
Socks		Plain black ankle socks only.	<p>White socks are not permitted. Socks must cover the ankle—no trainer socks, pop socks, or knee-high/long socks are allowed.</p> <p>Socks should be plain, without frills, extra designs, or logos. Additionally, socks must not be worn over tights.</p>
Tights		Plain black colour.	<p>Plain black tights with no patterns on them. Tights should not be see through and so should be 60+ denier.</p> <p>During June and July students are not required to wear tights, however they must wear a black ankle sock (in line with guidance above)</p>
Shoes		Black, traditional school shoes. Preferably with a strap, laces or buckle.	<p>Boots are not permitted. Slip-on shoes may only be worn if they offer adequate protection and appropriate grip. Ballerina style shoes and open-toe shoes are not allowed under any circumstances.</p> <p>Shoes must be leather style and not fabric, canvass or suede.</p> <p>Trainers—whether black or coloured—are not acceptable, including those with sports logos or athletic-style laces, as these will be classified as trainers. Students wearing inappropriate footwear will be asked to wear school-provided shoes</p>

Further guidance regarding shoes

<p>Permitted Shoes</p>	 <p>Shoe offers adequate protection and grip. We allow a discreet embellishment</p>	 <p>Clark's school shoe</p>	 <p>Kickers school shoe</p>	 <p>Black Velcro school shoe</p>
	 <p>Shoe offers adequate protection and grip</p>	 <p>Traditional style shoe</p>	 <p>M&S Velcro shoe</p>	 <p>This M&S shoe is not Ballet or Ballerina style</p>
<p>Non-permitted Shoes</p>	 <p>This is a Ballerina style shoe and does not offer sufficient protection or grip.</p>	 <p>This is an Adidas trainer, not a shoe</p>	 <p>This is a Converse/Vans trainer, not a shoe</p>	 <p>This shoe has too large an embellishment.</p>
	 <p>This is made from fabric and has athletic laces.</p>	 <p>This is Nike Air and is considered a trainer.</p>	 <p>This Vivienne Westwood shoe is a Ballerina style shoe and does not offer sufficient protection or grip.</p>	 <p>This is a boot and therefore not permitted.</p>

<p>Coat</p>			<p>Hoodies are not part of the school uniform and must not be worn on school premises, other than being worn as part of the PE kit. Any other hoodie seen on site will be confiscated.</p> <p>Students may wear a coat with a small, discreet logo. However, the following items are not permitted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fur or faux fur coats and gilets • Leather jackets • Denim jackets <p>All outerwear should be appropriate for a school environment and in keeping with our uniform standards.</p>
<p>Earrings</p>		<p>One small discreet silver or gold spherical stud in each earlobe.</p>	<p>Only small, spherical stud earrings are permitted—no other shapes or designs are allowed. Studs must be plain, with no stones or embellishments.</p> <p>Multiple earrings are not permitted.</p> <p>Earrings must be worn in the earlobe.</p> <p>Facial, tongue, and body piercings are strictly prohibited. This includes clear or retainer studs, which are not allowed under any circumstances.</p> <p>Earrings must be taken out for PE lessons.</p>
<p>School bags</p>		<p>A rucksack or other school bag of appropriate size for school.</p>	<p>Students must bring a practical bag that is large enough to carry all necessary equipment, including books, folders, and PE kit where required.</p> <p>While handbag-style bags are permitted, they must be suitably sized and practical for daily school use. The preferred and most suitable option is a rucksack, as it best supports organisation and comfort.</p> <p>The following are not allowed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small fashion rucksacks/handbags • Paper shopping bags • Plastic carrier bags <p>Bags may have a logo but must be free from anything offensive.</p>

Hair styles		<p>Hairstyles must be smart and practical. Level 1 shaving is allowed on the sides of the head, but the hair on top must be longer and graduated. Braids are welcome, including Box, Goddess, Dutch, French, and Fulani braids. One bead, matching the student's hair colour, may be worn at the end of each braid.</p>	<p>The following are not permitted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tram lines or patterns shaved into the hair • Shaving the entire head to a zero or level 1 (buzz cuts) • Undercuts • Hair that is dyed to look unnatural, including unnatural colours, highlights, or braids with varying colours • Woven strands of any colour in braids • Hair extensions that are not a natural hair colour • Hair jewellery <p>Long hair must be tied back during any lessons where it could pose a health and safety risk (e.g. PE, Science, DT).</p> <p>All hairstyles must be appropriate for a school setting and reflect our high standards of presentation.</p> <p>Discreet hair bobbles can be worn.</p>
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Non-Uniform days and trip

At specific times throughout the year the school will allow students to attend school in non-uniform, this is to raise money for charity or projects or as a reward.

The decision around whether students are expected to wear school uniform on trip is taken by the trip lead and will be communicated to parents through Arbor.

During non-school uniform days, trips and events, students must wear appropriate and reasonable clothing. The following are not permitted:

1. Inappropriate clothing
2. Lycra Shorts, Nike Pro shorts or shorts of a similar length/style to Nike Pro
3. Cropped tops revealing midriffs
4. Any logos, badges, symbols of wording on clothing that could be deemed offensive

Students may be prevented from accessing trips, events and non-uniform days if these expectations are breached.

On non-uniform days the expectations around jewellery remain, students are allowed to wear only a stud earring in each earlobe.

Items of religious or cultural significance

The Headteacher may grant exceptions to any of the above, but only where this is required as a matter of **sincere religious observance or cultural significance** and where this can be substantiated by a priest or relevant community leader.

Make-up

Students must not wear any make-up whatsoever. If found to be wearing make-up of any description pupils will be asked to remove it immediately. Failure to do so will result in an immediate sanction. Nail varnish of any description, as well as nail extensions, are similarly forbidden.

Pupils are not allowed to wear henna.

Uniform Adjustments During Extreme Weather

The school is committed to ensuring students are safe, comfortable, and able to learn effectively in all conditions. During periods of **extreme weather**, temporary adjustments may be made to uniform expectations while maintaining our high standards of presentation.

Hot Weather Adjustments

In periods of unusually hot weather, the following measures may be introduced:

- **Blazers may be removed** throughout the day, including in lessons and at social times.
- **Top buttons and ties** may be relaxed, particularly during the hottest parts of the day.
- In the event of **sustained or extreme heat**, students may be permitted to wear their **PE kit** instead of the usual uniform. This will only apply when authorised by the school.

Parents and students will always be informed of any temporary changes in advance through our usual communication channels.

Cold or Wet Weather Adjustments

In cold or adverse weather conditions, students may:

- Wear **appropriate outdoor coats** (but not in place of the school blazer).
- Use **scarves, gloves, and hats** while outdoors (to be removed indoors).

All weather-related adjustments will be decided by the senior leadership team and clearly communicated to both students and parents ahead of implementation

The following items are not permitted in school:

- Make-up
- Fake eyelashes
- Nail varnish
- False nails
- Tattoos
- Jewellery (including rings, necklaces, bracelets, and hair jewellery)
- Electrical devices (including mobile phones, cameras, and iPods)
- Aerosols
- Smart glasses
- Laser pens
- Baseball caps
- Hoodies – unless in PE.
- Hairstyles or colours that draw undue attention
- Black "trainer-style" shoes from sports brands (e.g. Nike, Adidas, Reebok, Puma, Lonsdale, Converse, Vans, etc.)

These items will either be confiscated or/and asked to be removed. They will be dealt with in line with the School Behaviour Policy.

Aerosols, laser pens, all electrical items such as iPods, mobile phones, smart devices, cameras, smart watches and items which interfere with the smooth running of the school day are all banned items and must be left at home. You should be aware that these items may be searched for and if found will be confiscated.

Naming of pupil property is important for clear identification if it is misplaced or lost. In exceptional circumstances, where students are unable to wear correct school dress, parents are asked to provide a note for the form tutor to consider.

The school reserves the right to make the final decision on what is considered appropriate as part of the school uniform. Please note that not every eventuality may be covered in this policy, as styles and fashions evolve.

Where ambiguity arises, the school's judgement will be final.

PE Uniform and kit requirements

Compulsory branded item

PE TOP

St Bede's colours with school logo



Compulsory items (branded/non-branded)

SHORTS or SKORT

St Bede's **football style** black shorts with school logo or **plain black with no logo, emblem or stripes.**

Cycle and Lycra shorts are **not** permitted.



Or



Or



Socks

Plain black or white.

Knee high football socks can be purchased in St Bede's Green.



TRAINER

Sports Trainers



SHINPADS

Shin pads when participating in football and hockey.



Highly Recommended

PLAIN BLACK HOODIE



OR

ST BEDE'S HOODIE



PLAIN BLACK LEGGINGS

No logo, emblem or stripes.



PLAIN BLACK TRACKSUIT BOTTOMS

No logo, emblem or stripes.




Items not allowed in PE lessons



Converse and Vans style trainers are **not** allowed in PE.



Hoodies that are not plain or black are **not** allowed in PE.

Optional items	
<p>FOOTBALL BOOTS WITH MOULDED STUDS OR BLADES</p> <p>Used for Rugby, Football and Cross country. If there is difficulty with the provision of these, please bring in a note from home.</p>	

Students are expected to arrive at all PE lessons with the full, appropriate kit, ensuring a positive and safe learning environment for all.

All students must bring their PE kit to every lesson, including those who are injured or temporarily unable to participate in physical activity. These students must also provide a written note explaining their condition and will be expected to engage in the lesson as fully as possible within their limitations. This may include roles such as coaching, refereeing, or officiating.

These expectations are clearly communicated to all students upon joining the school and are reinforced each September.

Jewellery in PE lessons is strictly prohibited. Students must remove all earrings before participating. Piercings should be planned for the summer holidays to allow adequate healing time. Failure to remove earrings will result in the student being withdrawn from the lesson and the behaviour policy followed.

If students have long hair, this should be tied back for PE.

Compliance

The school reserves the right to take disciplinary action if a student's uniform or appearance does not comply with the requirements set out in this policy.

Expected equipment

All students are expected to be properly equipped for learning so that lessons can run efficiently and without disruption. **Form tutors will carry out equipment checks during morning registration**, which may include visual checks or asking students to show key items (e.g. pens, pencil case), to ensure students are prepared for the day.

Students must bring a **pencil case** and use it to store all required equipment. Storing equipment in blazer pockets is not permitted.

Essential equipment:

- Black or blue pens (at least 2)
- Pencil(s)
- Green pen (for self-assessment/corrections)
- Rubber and pencil sharpener
- Ruler (minimum 15cm)
- **Glue stick**

- Highlighters (ideally green, yellow and pink for marking)
- **Mini-whiteboard pen**

Mathematics lessons require specific equipment; students must bring the following to every maths lesson:

- Scientific calculator: Recommended models: Casio FX-83GT CW+, FX-85GT CW+, or FX-991CW
- Protractor for measuring angles (either a half-circle (180°) or full-circle (360°) protractor is acceptable)
- Pair of compasses (for loci and constructions)

Some subjects may require additional specialist equipment at KS4. This will be communicated by subject teachers at the start of Year 10.