

# UNIFORM

SEPTEMBER 2023



Clifton  
High  
School



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# OUR NEW UNIFORM

## Purpose & Aims

As a thriving Independent School, set within the crowded Bristol education market, it was apparent our brand required more focus on expressing community representation in the modern world. It was in 2020, when our School pivoted in a new and exciting direction, that we seized the opportunity to evolve the look and feel of Clifton High School.

Rebranding the School and specifically updating our uniform as part of that rebranding aims to;

- Achieve a smarter look
- Create more consistency across the School and throughout the main School uniform and Sports kit
- Establish a stronger more recognisable identity
- Evoke a sense of unity and belonging whilst in keeping with our esteemed reputation
- Provide a less gendered, more capsuled uniform that all pupils feel comfortable to wear
- Proudly stand out from the crowd, and look different to neighbouring schools

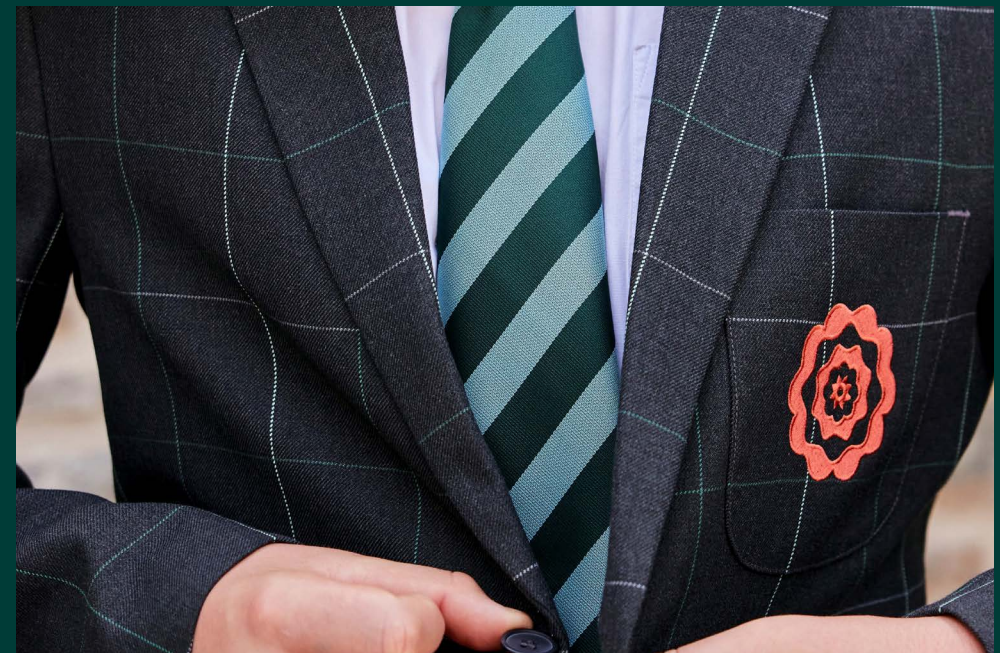
A diverse team of stakeholders, consisting of parent, pupil and staff focus groups, have collaboratively worked to create a uniform that is distinguished and modern yet practical, ensuring that our pupils look smart and feel inspired to learn.

We understand that transition can be daunting, however we assure parents of our commitment to consistently maintain our ethos and values whilst evolving in a modern world. The Clifton High School 'new look' will be both recognisable and sophisticated. It has incorporated feedback from all stakeholders and we are confident that the unique results will positively impact on our pupils' academic and social success.

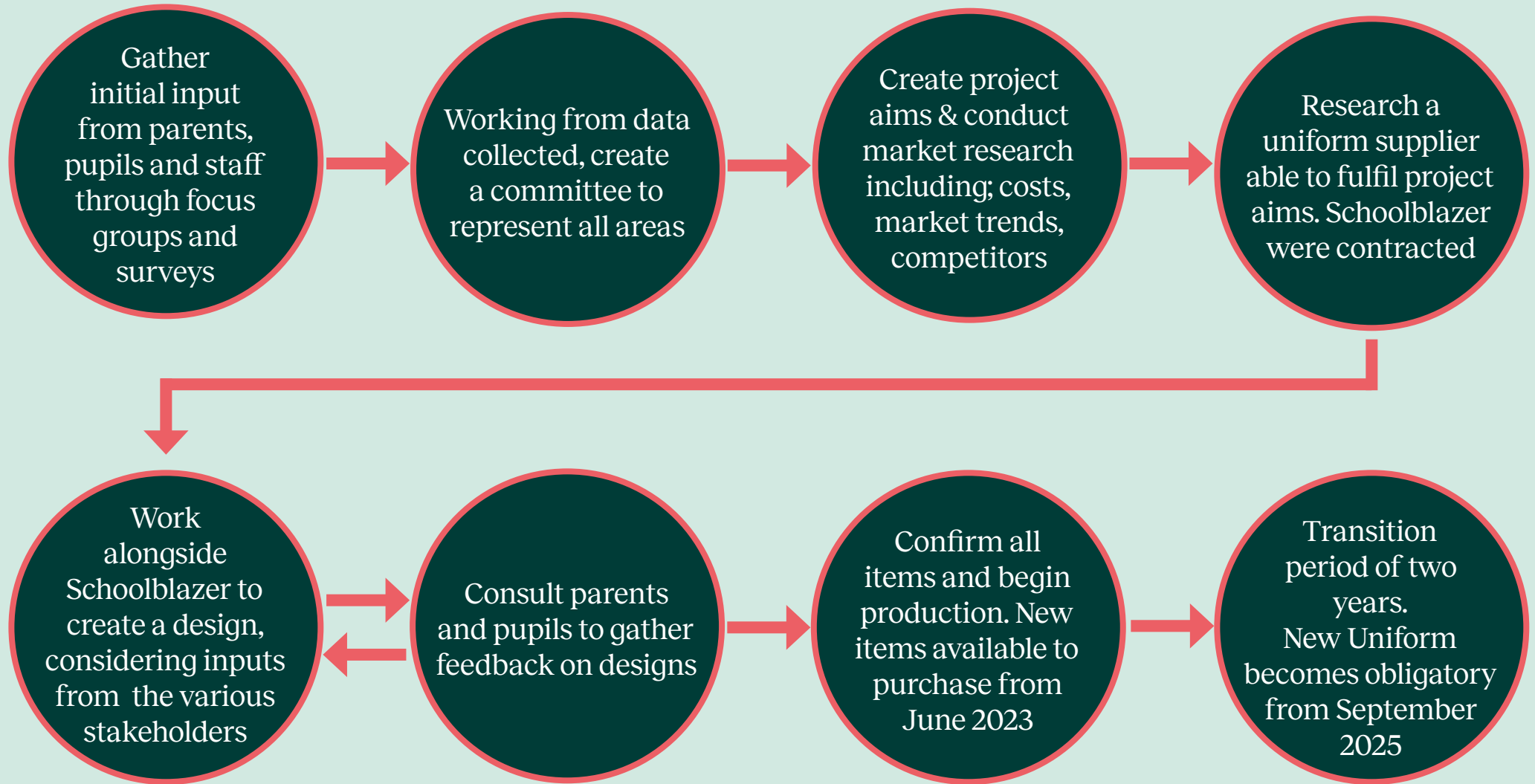
## Policy Introduction

A distinctive Clifton High School uniform identifies pupils as members of a respected community that will generate a sense of belonging. Without the pressure of dressing differently, pupils are at ease to be individual in personality and become accustomed to a future working environment.

As ambassadors of Clifton High School on and off the premises, all pupils are expected to dress in accordance with the School Uniform Policy at all times. Any requests to deviate from this Policy should be made to the Head of Infant and Junior School or the Deputy Head Pastoral of Senior School.



# UNIFORM DESIGN PROCESS



# UNIFORM DESIGN PROCESS

## The Journey to our Final Design

As part of this introduction to the new uniform, the School wished to openly share more on the thorough process and exciting journey that the was embarked upon to achieve the final design. The process began almost eighteen months ago with an internal uniform committee, representing all areas of the School. In that time, as per the infographic on the previous page, varying groups of parents, pupils, other schools and industry experts were consulted.

Rolling out the new branding was inevitably the starting point of the new uniform, most importantly the colour that would change. This subsequently allowed all aspects of the uniform, from material, sourcing, practicality, aesthetic etc., to be readdressed.

Establishing what success would look like in our new uniform was the next step and required the School to understand parents' opinions and priorities. A survey was conducted in Spring 2022 and the results were fundamental in setting and effectively achieving the success criteria:

- Recognisable
- Smart
- Modern
- Practical
- Unique

The main steers that were gathered from the parent survey and referred to throughout the process were:

- Over 75% of parents who responded bought core items; blazer, skirt, jumpers, trousers annually or more often.
- The ability to machine wash was very important; almost half of parents wash their uniforms every 1-4 weeks.
- Over 60% of parents felt Schoolblazer was good value for money
- The most important qualities of the uniform were
  1. 34% quality and lifespan
  2. 30% look and style
  3. 23% comfort
- Cost of the uniform was only a priority for 13% of parents
- Themes that arose from individual comments were:
  - The majority of parents wanted a smarter and more sophisticated look
  - Keep cost low
  - Consistency
  - Trousers should be available to purchase from the high street
- There were varying opinions with the most common being:
  - For a predominantly black sports kit to remain. Only a small number dislike the black sports kit
  - The current uniform was perceived as 'scuffy' or 'old' by many. However, a small number of parents 'liked' the current uniform.

## Pupil & Parent Focus Groups

The School worked with several parent and pupil focus groups whose contribution towards the design and their input on practical elements was invaluable.

With the Parent Focus Group, individuals presented their preferences, needs and experiences, and were forthcoming to provide honest and relevant feedback. Parents were also considerate of all other areas of the School, balancing priorities and needs for different year groups whilst still creating a unified look for a through School.

The pupils were mature and practical. They were confident to share independent opinions and disagree with some elements that parents, and staff had chosen. As a result, the School reconsidered and adapted designs of some items where pupil reasoning made for a stronger case. For example, parents and staff chose a darker shade jumper that looked very mature, but pupils wanted a slightly brighter green as they felt it stood out more and was more appropriate and representative of Clifton High School. The brighter version was selected, and this has resulted in a more complete look.

This input gave the School the assurance and confidence that the best uniform for everyone has been created. All stakeholders have been represented and accommodated for in the final design.

## Colours & Patterns

It became apparent from the outset that pupils and parents did not want a 'green blazer' so that option was not explored. A single colour uniform did not seem the right fit to truly embrace who Clifton High are and the new branding palette.

The idea of the check was a subtle, modern take on tartan, maintaining a 'school' look but in a fresher way. It reflects a more professional environment, embracing the world our pupils are growing up in and the working world they will inevitably step into.

We avoided opting for bold or garish patterns; striped, two tone, graphics etc. as they might be unpopular with some pupils. Using a neutral colour like the grey allowed us to integrate our new brand colours more dynamically. It was important that colours were consistent throughout the items, and accents such as linings, piping, trims and panels were cohesive and therefore looked smarter.

The colours, check and overall design are completely unique. Not only are they different to neighbouring schools but are unlike any other schools around the country, creating a look that truly reflects Clifton High School.



## Acknowledging Cost and Purchasing

After researching potential suppliers, together with support from parents (evident in our survey results), Schoolblazer were selected.

Data on historical basket costs at Schoolblazer were gathered, and whilst prices would have still risen this year due to inflation, a similar price point for the new uniform has been maintained. The most expensive items were consciously avoided and a compromise of good quality and price was successfully made.

Initially, a one year transition period was set, however considering the emerging cost-of-living crisis the time scale was extended to two years. The need for some items to be available to buy in multiples on the high street was recognised to sit alongside the items available through Schoolblazer. This avoided bespoke blouses/shirts and trousers and significantly reduced the uniform investment.

## New Items

Families requested a small number of new optional items to be introduced, for example, Adventure clothes. These items are of high quality but still sit on a price par with high street alternatives.

Additional compulsory items address essential changes moving forward. These include the introduction of a Games top for all pupils in Year 3-13, providing greater equality and gender neutrality.

## Practicalities

Creating the ultimate uniform involves many aspects, some of which lie outside the aesthetic look. Listening to pupil and parent needs and working closely with our suppliers, the following practicalities were assured:

- All items are machine washable.
- Younger pupils have zips not buttons on pinafores.
- Quality was a key factor; items and materials that have longevity and high sustainability credentials were opted for.
- More items are available with either a feminine cut or a neutral fit, so pupils select what is more comfortable and suited to them.



# PURCHASING & TRANSITION

Clifton High School are considerate to the complexities surrounding the purchase of a new uniform and we hope the following information will clarify the process for parents.

Whilst we encourage all pupils to wear the new uniform from September 2023, we are establishing a two-year grace period whereby pupils are still permitted to wear the old uniform. **From September 2025, our entire pupil body should be in the new uniform, including sports kit.** We appreciate there will be a period of inconsistency in uniform as we transition from the old to the new, however, our long-term aim is for a greater sense of consistency, unity and professionalism to evolve. The School will be holding one last second-hand sale in June 2023. After this, second-hand sales of the old uniform will become redundant. **Items from the old and new uniform will not be permitted to be worn together.** For more information, please read the Appearance and Standards section on page 31.

As a Green Flag School, it is important to us that old uniform is recycled effectively. Initially we would recommend families donate items to the School's Development Office for the final Second-Hand Uniform Sale in June 2023. From September 2023 once the new uniform is in place, we will be looking at introducing other means to recycle old uniform sustainably.

**All new families joining Clifton High School from September 2023 are required to purchase new uniform and sports kit.**

## Purchasing

From a practical perspective, this two-year transition period is reflective of the natural lifespan of a pupil's uniform due to wear and growth. However, the School appreciates that school uniform, whilst has great cost per wear, is a big expense initially. To help with this, the School are pleased to share that a **£30 bespoke discount code will be issued to parents for every pupil to use on Schoolblazer's Online Shop.** Further details and the discount

New uniform will be available to purchase from 26<sup>th</sup> June 2023



codes will be sent the week before the new uniform goes live; 19<sup>th</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> June 2023. The discount code will be redeemable from Monday 26<sup>th</sup> June until and inclusive of Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> September 2023.

## Schoolblazer

Our School uniform supplier is Schoolblazer [www.schoolblazer.com](http://www.schoolblazer.com)

Schoolblazer are a trusted supplier, committed to producing high quality, durable, tailored items that are economical in price. Clifton High School has selected a bespoke tartan fabric, sourced from their renowned sustainable and fair trade range. Schoolblazer assures their customers of an efficient service that supports parents in offering the option of free name taping as well as intelligent sizing.

## Clifton High School Foundation

To find out information on uniform bursary support, please contact your child's Thrive Tutor.

As this is a new uniform, second-hand uniform sales will recommence once a substantial amount of stock becomes available. Parents are encouraged to donate outgrown uniform items which are in a good and clean condition, via the School Office. There is no stigma to parents purchasing second-hand items and all profits benefit the Clifton High School Foundation (Charity No: 1071385) which supports the School Bursary Programme and other exceptional projects.

A range of merchandise items are available to purchase from the Development Office [online shop](#). Stock is constantly being updated and parents will be informed in advance of pop-up events throughout the School year. Please contact [development@cliftonhigh.co.uk](mailto:development@cliftonhigh.co.uk) for specific enquiries.





**PREVIOUS UNIFORM**



**THE HIVE**



**INFANT & JUNIORS**



**JUNIOR SCHOOL**



**SENIOR SCHOOL**



**SENIOR SCHOOL**



**SIXTH FORM**



**WHOLE SCHOOL**





**THE HIVE**

# THE HIVE UNIFORM

The Hive uniform was designed to be comfortable, allowing the children to be active and learn unrestricted by their clothes.

Mandatory Items	Optional Items
*White polo top, long or short sleeve, crested	Green and white striped summer dress
*Green sweatshirt, crested	*Green stormproof coat
*Green jogging bottoms, crested	
*Green PE shorts, crested	
Black Velcro school shoes	
Trainers with Velcro straps in any colour	
Wellies	
Waterproof trousers	
Hat, scarf and gloves (during winter months)	
Sun hat and sun cream (during summer months)	
A spare change of clothes in a named bag	
School backpack (provided by Clifton High School Admissions Department)	

Items marked with an asterisk\* must be bought from [Schoolblazer](#).

# THE HIVE UNIFORM



or



Optional



Summer  
Optional



or



# THE INFANT SCHOOL MAIN UNIFORM

## Reception - Year 2

Mandatory Items	Optional Items
*White polo top, long or short sleeve, crested	Green and white pinstriped summer dress
*Green V neck jumper, crested, or *green cardigan, crested	White, brown or black sandals (during summer months)
*Bespoke checked shorts, *bespoke checked pinafore, or charcoal trousers	*Green stormproof coat
Black school shoes	
Dark green or grey tights, or dark green, grey, or white socks (during summer months)	
Waterproof trousers	
Wellies	
Dark coloured coat	
Hat, scarf and gloves (during winter months)	
Sun hat and sun cream (during summer months)	
A spare change of clothes in a named bag (Reception children)	
School backpack (provided by Clifton High School Admissions Department)	
*School painting smock	

Items marked with an asterisk must be bought from [Schoolblazer](#).

# THE INFANT SCHOOL MAIN UNIFORM



or



or



Optional



Summer  
Optional



or



or



Summer



OR



OR





**INFANT & JUNIOR SCHOOL**



**INFANT SCHOOL**

# THE INFANT SCHOOL SPORTS KIT

Mandatory Items	Optional Items
*White PE top, crested	*Soft shell active jacket, crested
*Mid layer (quarter zip), crested	
*PE shorts or training pant, crested	
Trainers in any colour	
Kit bag (no drawstring bags)	
Black swimming costume or trunks	
Goggles, towel, *branded swimming cap	

# THE INFANT SCHOOL ADVENTURE

Mandatory Items	Optional Items
*Green sweatshirt, crested	*Green jogging bottoms, crested
*White polo top, long or short sleeve, crested	*Green shorts, crested
Waterproof coat and trousers	

Items marked with an asterisk must be bought from [Schoolblazer](#).

Information on Adventure activities and kit required will be communicated with parents on a termly basis.



# THE INFANT SCHOOL SPORTS KIT



# THE INFANT SCHOOL ADVENTURE KIT



# THE JUNIOR SCHOOL MAIN UNIFORM

## Year 3 -6

Mandatory Items	Optional Items
White flat collared blouse or white stiff collared shirt	Green and white pinstriped summer dress
*School tie, if wearing a stiff collared shirt	White, brown or black sandals (during summer months)
*Green V neck jumper, crested or *green cardigan, crested	*Green stormproof coat
*Grey blazer, lined, piped and crested	
*Bespoke checked shorts, *bespoke checked kilt, or charcoal trousers	
Dark green or grey tights, or dark green, grey, or white socks (during summer months)	
Black school shoes	
Dark green or grey tights or dark green, grey, or white socks (during summer months)	
Dark coloured coat	
Hat, scarf and gloves (during winter months)	
Sun hat and sun cream (during summer months)	
*Art overall	

Items marked with an asterisk must be bought from [Schoolblazer](#).



Pictured left: white stiff collared shirt with tie | white flat collared blouse

# THE JUNIOR SCHOOL MAIN UNIFORM



OR



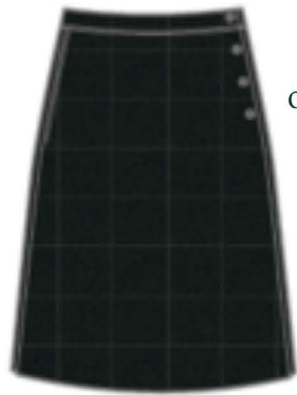
OR



Optional



Summer  
Optional



OR



OR



OR



Summer



OR







# THE JUNIOR SCHOOL ADVENTURE & SPORTS KIT

Year 3 -6

Mandatory Items	Optional Items
*Mid layer (quarter zip), crested	*Soft shell active jacket
*Reversible Games shirt with rugby shorts or skort, crested	Black base layer top and bottoms, crested
*White PE top with PE shorts or skort, crested	Cricket bat and tennis racket
*Training pant, crested	
*Games socks	
Trainers, astroturf trainers (for football or hockey), studded boots (for rugby)	
Black swimming costume or trunks	
Goggles, towel, *branded swimming cap	
Shin pads and mouth guard	
Hockey stick	
Kit bag	
Water bottle	
*Adventure sweatshirt, crested	

Pupils can wear their PE kit for Adventure, alongside the Adventure sweatshirt. Further outdoor items may be needed, for instance wellies and waterproof trousers. Information on activities and kit required will be updated and communicated with parents on a termly basis.

Items marked with an asterisk must be bought from [Schoolblazer](#).

# THE JUNIOR SCHOOL SPORTS KIT



## P.E.



## GAMES



## ADVENTURE



# THE SENIOR SCHOOL MAIN UNIFORM

## Year 7 - 11

Mandatory Items	Optional Items
White blouse or collared shirt	Hat, scarf and gloves (during winter months)
*School tie, if wearing a collared shirt	Art overall (recommended for Years 7-9 and pupils who take Art GCSE)
*Green V neck jumper, or sleeveless sweater, crested	
*Bespoke checked blazer, lined and crested	
*Bespoke checked kilt, or charcoal trousers	
Black school shoes	
Dark coloured coat	
Apron (Years 7-9 and pupils who take Food & Nutrition GCSE)	
Black tights or dark green, grey or white socks (during summer months)	

Items marked with an asterisk must be bought from [Schoolblazer](#).



Pictured left: white stiff collared shirt with tie | white flat collared blouse



# THE SENIOR SCHOOL MAIN UNIFORM



or



or



or



or







# THE SENIOR SCHOOL & SIXTH FORM SPORTS KIT

Year 7 - 11

Mandatory Items	Optional Items
*Reversible Games shirt, crested	*Soft shell active jacket, crested
*White PE top, crested	*Black base layer top and bottoms, crested
*Skort, running shorts, rugby shorts or PE shorts, crested	Cricket bat and tennis racket
*Mid layer (quarter zip), crested	
*Training pant, crested	
*Games socks	
Trainers, astroturf trainers, studded boots	
Black swimming costume or trunks	
Goggles, towel, *branded swimming cap	
Shin pads and mouthguard	
Water bottle	
Kit bag	
Hockey stick	

Items marked with an asterisk must be bought from [Schoolblazer](#).

# THE SENIOR SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM SPORTS KIT

## P.E.



## GAMES





# THE SIXTH FORM DRESS CODE

## Year 12 - 13

Our Sixth Form students are role models and leaders within our School community. It is important they are dressed smartly and appropriately, especially when representing the School and at formal and public-facing events. We believe that this also ensures our students approach the school day with a focused, positive mindset as well as preparing them for a future working in a professional environment.

All Sixth Form students are expected to wear	Items that are not permitted
A suit jacket, worn at all times around the School site	Denim or leather jackets.
Smart full-length trousers, a smart dress or smart skirt	Very short or tight-fitting styles and casual styles including jeans, leggings or combats.
A short or long-sleeved shirt, blouse or top, preferably with a collar	Cropped, strappy, sheer or halter-neck styles.
Jumpers, if worn, should be of a smart, formal, fine-knit style	Hoodies and sweatshirts of any design.
Smart, sensible shoes or boots	Any style of trainers is not acceptable.
Male students are expected to wear a tie at all times. Ties are optional for all other students.	

Sixth Form students must adhere to the Senior School Sport Kit dress code detailed on page 36 for all sporting activities.

Please refer to the Standards and Appearance section overleaf for more details.

If a member of staff deems any student's clothing to be overly casual, untidy or revealing, they will address this with the student, and it is important that this feedback is taken on board.

# APPEARANCE & STANDARDS

Clifton High School expects all pupils to present themselves with a smart and professional appearance, adhering to the rules outlined below.

As the uniform is made up of two parts; Main School Uniform and Sports Kit, during the transition time families can purchase all of one area of either of these uniforms and maintain old uniform in the other area. For example, your child may have the whole new sports kit but wear an old main School Uniform. This is acceptable if each capsule is a complete look in only one version of branding. **Parents need to be mindful that pupils will not be allowed to wear a mix of old and new items at the same time.** For example, a new blazer with old kilt, or old blazer with a new tie, or a new games top with old PE shorts, will not be permitted under the updated uniform policy.

Not adhering to our appearance and standards regulations will result in incorrect uniform sanctions for pupils in the Senior School. Any member of our staff body that deems a pupil's uniform to be inappropriate, will address this directly with the pupil (and parent if required). We expect this feedback to be clearly understood and the necessary changes made.

The new Clifton High School uniform enables greater neutrality and pupils are encouraged to wear any item of the capsule collection that best reflects their chosen gender identity. No individual pupil will be discriminated against based on their personal uniform choice.

## Sports Kit

The following rules apply in relation to wearing sports kit in School for pupils in the Infant, Junior, Senior School and Sixth Form.

Lesson/Club	Rule
Games lessons	Uniform to be worn to School. Games kit to be brought into School to change into before Games lesson.
PE lessons	Full PE kit, including tracksuits, to be worn to School and may be worn all day on the days pupils have PE.
Sports Clubs before School	Sports kit to be worn to School. Uniform to be brought into School to change into during registration if there are no other sporting commitments that day. If pupils do have Games, they remain in their Games kit until their Games lesson, and then change into their uniform afterwards.
Lunchtime Sports clubs	Uniform to be worn to School. Sports kit to be brought into School to change at lunchtime. If pupils have Games in the morning, they remain in their Games kit until lunchtime. If they have Games in the afternoon, they remain in their Games kit after their lunchtime club.
After school Sports clubs	Uniform to be worn to School. Sports kit to be brought into School to change at the end of the School day. If pupils have a Games or PE lesson, they remain in their Games or PE kit for their after-school club.



# APPEARANCE & STANDARDS

## Whole School

Item	Area of School	Rule
Blazer	Junior, Senior School, and Sixth Form	Must be worn to, from and in School, as directed.
Shirts	Whole School	Must be tucked in and fully buttoned.
Kilt	Junior & Senior School	Knee-length
Ties	Junior, Senior School, and Sixth Form	Must cover top button.
Shoes	Whole School	Formal, black leather or leather substitute with no logos, that are clean, polished and well-fitting. Shoes with a canvas upper, soft-soled ballet pumps or black trainers of any kind are not permitted.
Socks	Whole School	Trainer socks must not be worn.
Sports kit items	Whole School	Unless otherwise indicated, sports kit should be purchased from Schoolblazer. Clothing from other sports retailers, clubs or associations is not permitted.

Item	Rule
Hair	<p>Hair below shoulder length must be tied back with a simple accessory for practical lessons, extra-curricular activities, or when instructed to do so.</p> <p>Hair should be well-groomed and natural in colour. Hair styles should be smart and professional. Protective hairstyles such as cornrows and locks associated with ethnic and cultural identities are smart and professional.</p> <p>Pupils wearing cultural or religious head coverings should be in keeping with the School colours; dark green, grey, or black.</p>
Jewellery	<p>A watch, small stud earrings (maximum one in each ear) and a fine chain with a religious symbol appropriate to the wearer are permitted. No other jewellery is permitted.</p> <p>Pupils wearing inappropriate or additional jewellery will be asked to remove it.</p>

# APPEARANCE & STANDARDS

Item	Rule
Mobile Phones	Mobile phones are not permitted to be used during the School day unless authorised by a member of staff.

## Infant & Junior School

Item	Rule
All	All items to be clearly labelled with your child's full name
Shoes	Sandals can be worn with white socks and summer uniform

## Senior School & Sixth Form

Item	Rule
Discrete Make-up	Permitted only for Year 10 and above
Nail Varnish	Permitted for Sixth Form students only. Other pupils will be sent to the School Office to have it removed.
Eyebrow slits/cuts	Not permitted
Smart Glasses	Not permitted

# PERSONAL BELONGINGS & EQUIPMENT

Item	Rule
Bags	Rucksack with supportive straps are required. Pupils in The Hive and Infant School will be provided with a School rucksack. Please ensure this is identifiable via the name label and a suggested small keyring.
Pencil Case	Pupils from Year 3 upwards are required to bring in a well equipped pencil case.
Padlock	Senior School pupils are provided with lockers and are required to bring in a combination padlock to ensure items remain secure.
iPads	iPads are distributed to all pupils in the Senior School at the start of the Autumn Term.
Laptops	Sixth Form students require their own device. More information on this can be found in the 'Starting Sixth Form Guide'.

## Lost Property

All items should be clearly labelled with your child's full name. If an item is lost and found it will be handed to our lost property where it will be stored until collected. These items can be collected any time during the school day from Mrs Cridland's Office, BG6, located in School House (formally known as the Main School Building). Alternatively, please email [lostproperty@cliftonhigh.co.uk](mailto:lostproperty@cliftonhigh.co.uk) for details.

## Bursary Support

For more information on how the School can support families to purchase items through bursaries, please contact your child's Thrive Tutor.



**Clifton  
High  
School**