

# St Bede's Catholic Voluntary Academy

Headteacher: Mr R. Hibbard



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

Our Ref: RH/JD/Uniform2018

7<sup>th</sup> September 2018

Dear Parents/Guardians

You will remember in July we wrote to all parents outlining our expectations in terms of the school uniform. I would like to thank parents for their support in this, there has without doubt been a substantial improvement in the way St Bede's students are presented.

To remind parents please find below the uniform standards which, as we outlined in July, have not been changed.

Boys	Girls
<b>School Blazer:</b> Must be worn by Years 7 to 10	<b>School Blazer:</b> Must be worn by Years 7 to 10
School Tie	School Tie
<b>Jumper:</b> Bottle Green V Neck (plain or with School colours). Optional for Y7-10 - to be worn under school blazer. Compulsory for Year 11 who only wear jumper with school badge	<b>Jumper:</b> Bottle Green V Neck (plain or with School colours). Optional for Y7-10 - to be worn under school blazer. Compulsory for Year 11 who only wear jumper with school badge
<b>Shirt:</b> Plain white	<b>Shirt:</b> Plain white
<b>Trousers:</b> Classic straight leg - Black	<b>Skirt:</b> Black knee length <b>Trousers:</b> Classic straight leg - Black
<b>Shoes:</b> Black (no trainers or canvas shoes)	<b>Shoes:</b> Black (no trainers or canvas shoes)

1. Trousers: These must be classic straight leg trousers. We do not allow slim fit trousers, black jeans, leggings or cropped trousers.
2. Shoes: These must be black shoes. We do not allow black trainers, canvas shoes, vans or converse shoes.
3. Skirt: These must be knee length and not of a tight fit and all skirts must be black. It does not need to be pleated.

This week if there were issues with the uniform of students we spoke to them in assembly. We also gave them a pass for the rest of the week so that the issues can be sorted. We feel that giving students and parents 5 days, including the weekend to rectify the issues, is sufficient. Therefore, the expectation is that all students will wear the appropriate uniform from Monday. If students do not meet this standard then they will be dealt with through the consequences system.

In line with our Catholic Ethos and understanding the challenges that many of us face, we would like to specifically deal with the issues around shoes. We understand that many parents over the summer, in good faith, spent in excess of £50 on footwear that is described in shops and online as “shoes”. I can understand the frustration of parents when they have been told that this is not the case. Therefore, we are willing to give parents and students until October half term to make any necessary changes. However, please be aware that the following footwear have not and will not be allowed:

- Trainers.
- Canvas shoes.
- Converse Shoes
- Van shoes
- Adidas gazelle trainers (or anything that resembles this).

To clarify, sandals are not classed as a school shoe and are not part of the uniform policy as we are aware some students are wearing black sandal type footwear.

We are aware that some parents have asked why the school does not sell all uniform or that we sell our uniform through a single supplier. Currently items such as blazers, ties and jumpers are bought through the school. Trousers, skirts, shoes and shirts are bought through the high street. The reason for this is to reduce the costs to parents, one supplier in the area wanted to charge nearly £70 for a blazer when we currently charge between £40 and £50. This is something that we are prepared to look into but it would result in uniform becoming more expensive.

We would like to thank parents for their comments in support of this; a number have contacted the school, pleased at the changes we have made and the standards we are upholding. The standard of uniform presentation is much improved and we thank parents for supporting us in raising standards. We always aim to work in partnership with our parents and value your support greatly. We have also thanked our students for the way they have met our expectations and standards too. We look forward to supporting them during this academic year and we hope they have many successes.

Yours sincerely



Mr Hibbard  
**Headteacher**



Miss Busk  
**Asssistant Headteacher.**