

# **Blackwater Integrated College**



## **Uniform Policy**

Date ratified by Board of Governors: February 2025

Date of Review: February 2027

Previous policy dates from June 2018 – January 2025

Stephen Taylor  
Principal

## **Blackwater Integrated College Uniform Policy**

Blackwater Integrated College has a distinctive uniform of which we are justly proud. Self expression and encouraging difference are important concepts at Blackwater IC.

There are many reasons for having a compulsory college uniform. Perhaps the most obvious reason is that it removes the burden of having to decide what to wear each day and makes all students equal within the college. Students are encouraged to take pride in themselves and their appearance at all times. Parents/Carers are asked to give their vital support in maintaining high standards, by adhering to the Uniform Policy.

The college uniform also helps to establish a sense of identity. Students should feel proud of their uniform and their association with the college. As students move into the community, the image they present helps to establish and maintain our identity in the local area and beyond. Full college uniform, which includes the blazer, must be worn in and around the college, for all college occasions and journeys to and from school. The college tracksuit may be worn on some less formal occasions.

Following a consultation with students and parents in October 2024 we have made small changes to our uniform. These are all in response to requests from students and parents alike in relation to cost, ease of wearing uniform and the practicality of a uniform. There have been slight changes in relation to optional items as well as shirts and ties for girls if they wish and some changes to suitable footwear and piercings. We will continue to consult with Student Voice and Parents Association on uniform to ensure that cost, ease or wearing and access to uniform is at the forefront of all decisions as we move forward towards the opening of a new college of which all BIC students will be a component part.

We continue to have a free 'uniform exchange' throughout the year in the College and if any child requires any items during the academic year feel parents are free to contact us and we will try and accommodate their needs. We are also happy to accept any items that no longer fit throughout the year so these can be used by others.

Exceptions to the policy may be made after considerations of the particular circumstances by the Principal.

## Girls' Uniform

Blazer	Navy with College badge
Blouse or Shirt	Blue and white striped blouse <b>or</b> plain white school shirt and College tie.
Skirt/trousers	School grey pleated skirt or school grey trousers
Jumper	College v-neck jumper with college colours (optional)
Tights/socks	Plain black tights
Shoes	Plain black leather shoes <b>or</b> black leather trainers with no logos
Coat	In cold weather an outdoor coat may be worn
Jewellery	A wristwatch may be worn at any time. A pair of stud earrings may be worn. One small nose stud will be permitted.
Hair	Hairstyles are expected to be neat, tidy and sensible. Extremes of cut or colour are not permitted.
Make-up	Make-up, if worn, should be subtle.
Scarf	The college scarf is available from our official stockist.
PE	The only clothing acceptable for PE are College shorts, polo shirt, socks, tracksuit trousers or leggings and quarter zip top – only available from our official stockist. Appropriate trainers are required for PE
Schoolbag	Schoolbag large enough to hold A4 sized books and folders

## Boys' Uniform

Blazer	Navy with College badge
Shirt	Plain white school shirt
Trousers	School grey trousers
Jumper	College v-neck jumper with college colours (optional)
Shoes	Plain black leather school shoes or black leather trainers with no logos
Tie	Ties must be worn in a neat fashion and should be worn with the top shirt button securely fastened.
Coat	In cold weather an outdoor coat may be worn
Jewellery	A wristwatch may be worn at any time. A pair of stud earrings may be worn. One small nose stud will be permitted.
Hair	Hairstyles are expected to be neat, tidy and sensible. Extremes of cut or colour are not permitted.
Scarf	The college scarf is available from our official stockist
PE	The only clothing acceptable for PE are College shorts, polo shirt, socks, tracksuit trousers and quarter zip top – only available from our official stockist. Appropriate trainers are required for PE
Schoolbag	Schoolbag large enough to hold A4 sized books and folders

Please note that the acceptance of a place in the college implies acceptance of the College uniform policy.

- There will be no changes to uniform during an academic year and any changes will be initiated through consultation with students and parents.
- Enquiries about uniform should be made through a form tutor or Year Head as appropriate.
- During periods of extreme weather the Principal will inform students and parents of any changes to the uniform policy.

### **Failure to adhere to College expectations:**

If a student fails to follow the college uniform policy, we may take a number of steps:

- In the first instance, a student's form teacher/class teacher may address any issues relating to student uniform.
- In the event of a student being unwilling or unable to address concerns relating to a uniform concern, the student may be referred to the Head of Year or the Pastoral Coordinator.
- Parents may be contacted to provide the missing items of uniform and there may be a meeting with parents/carers to address concerns. Uniform will be provided if possible from the uniform exchange stock.
- Persistent concerns regarding uniform and/or appearance may result in referral to a detention, letter home to parents or meeting with parents/carers to address concerns.

We appreciate the financial burden parents/carers may be under. If the parent/carer of a student is unable to meet the costs associated with any item of student uniform, please contact the Pastoral Coordinator or the Principal and we will attempt to assist either through the college uniform exchange or through grants for which they may be eligible.

As part of the Home College partnership, we hope that parents/carers will play an active role in supporting us maintain a high standard of student uniform and appearance. Parents/carers may do this by reinforcing the guidelines regarding uniform and appearance and supporting the implementation of any sanctions where a student contravenes the College Uniform Policy.