



## Bennett Memorial School Sixth Form Dress Code

Bennett Memorial School acknowledges the importance of the Sixth Form as leaders of the school. Sixth Form students play a vital role in the smooth organisation of our community as well as providing leadership and role models for younger students. Your conduct, including dress and appearance is an important part of this; as such you are expected to dress formally and smartly for school.

The Sixth Form Dress Code is as follows:

### GIRLS

- A smart dark coloured business suit, either a skirt suit, dress suit or full length trouser suit, to be teamed with a smart plain tailored top. Girl's skirts or dresses should be of a respectable length, nearer to the knee than the mid-thigh
- Girls wishing to observe Islamic dress may wear a simple headscarf (hijab) which should be of a plain colour. Items of clothing which fully or partially cover the face are not permitted.

### BOYS

- A smart dark coloured business suit with a smart plain shirt and tie. Plain, smart v neck sweaters may be worn underneath the jacket in cold weather.
- Jackets need to be worn by both boys and girls at all times. Footwear for both boys and girls should be smart and business-like shoes (you must be able to polish them).

Outdoor coats for both boys and girls must be smart, plain and dark coloured.

The following restrictions apply in all circumstances:

- No shorts of any type, including business shorts
- No "beachwear" including flip-flops and strappy tops
- No leggings/ treggings
- No "Ugg" style boots
- No jeans or denim of any sort or colour
- No sportswear including trainers, sneakers, tracksuit trousers, sweatshirts or hoodies
- No leather jackets
- No extremes of fashion, jewellery or make-up
- No piercings of any sort for boys. Girls are allowed discreet ear piercing only. Nose studs are not allowed.
- Girls or boys may not have extreme hairstyles eg: unnatural or contrasting colours, extremes of length or shaved patterns in hair. Hair should never be shorter than number 2. The style must also be appropriately tapered between the shorter sides and back and any longer hair on top. Hair at the front must be short enough that eyes are not covered.

Students who are studying art or technology are expected to provide a suitable overall to protect their clothes in practical lessons.

Students are expected to change into kit for P.E. lessons or team sports while at school and change back again for any following lessons.

Any infringements of the dress code will be addressed by staff in line with the school policy on sanctions in a fair and consistent manner and may result in the student being sent home in order to change. In these circumstances it will be the responsibility of the student to catch up on any missed work.

The Head of Sixth Form may be consulted about individual outfits and suitability of items of clothing. In all cases on matters relating to the dress code the judgement of senior members of staff is final.

## **Sixth Form Dress Code**

### Rationale of the dress code

- I. The 6<sup>th</sup> form are the leading students in the school community. Sixth form dress therefore sets the tone and the standard for the rest of the student body and is in keeping with the smart staff dress code.
- II. Sixth form dress needs to reflect the nature of student's purpose in school. Students should value and respect themselves and others. Dress that is smart, dignified and modest reflects this purpose through the respect it shows to others and the seriousness of intent that it demonstrates. Consequently, dress more appropriate for the beach or going out with friends is not appropriate for Sixth form students.
- III. Sixth form study is about encouraging independence of mind and an intellectually creative mind. The dress code should be able to reflect a student's individuality without compromising the school's high standards.
- IV. Many 6<sup>th</sup> form students will go on to professional or skilled jobs where there is a dress code that reflects the ethos and status of that company or organisation. The 6<sup>th</sup> form dress code therefore acts as a bridge between education and employment.
- V. Sixth form students work with teaching and support staff in a professional capacity. Sixth form dress needs to reflect that professional relationship.