

Testwood School

Uniform Policy

Key Responsibility area:	Dermot Murphy
Last Review:	September 2024
Next Review:	September 2025



Revision History

Version	Date	Amendments	Initials
V1.0	21/09/22		DM
V1.1	26/06/23	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Addition of school jumper, school shorts• Black footwear to replace shoes• Addition of the PE skorts• Additional support for families to borrow/have 'pre-loved' uniform donated by school leavers	PW
V1.2	20/09/23	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Improved clarity over jewellery rules and false eyelashes, removal of the ban on retainers for facial piercings, and certain exemptions on religious/cultural grounds	PW
V1.3	04/07/24	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Improved clarity over jewellery rules• Addition of no jewellery allowed in PE or Sport practical lessons• Updated information for parents/ carers to acquire pre-loved uniform.	DM

A) Introduction

Our school uniform is important to help our students establish themselves as part of the Testwood community and to instil pride in their school.

Purpose:

This policy has been designed so that there is clarity for both parents and students around our uniform expectations. In addition to this, we believe uniform is important for the following reasons:

- It contributes to our ethos and sets an appropriate tone to support positive behaviour.
- It supports our students to be comfortable and to want to attend our school.
- The wearing of our uniform should encourage pupils to treat each other and the school environment with respect.
- It should support pupils in learning how to dress in a manner appropriate to the activity being undertaken and the environment they inhabit.

B) Aim:

Our aim is to set a standard of dress and appearance which will be appropriate and acceptable for the school and its community. Whilst the uniform should be smart and help students to have pride in themselves, it should also be comfortable, easy to wear and not a source of confrontation between staff and students. Testwood uniform should not unfairly discriminate against individual students on the basis of religion or culture.

Cost is also carefully considered in deciding on uniform design and uniform suppliers, and we review the contract arrangements with our supplier regularly so that parents continue to get value for money. We have tried to ensure that everything required is simple and hardwearing.

C) Uniform Description:

Blazer	Plain black with Testwood School badge on top pocket. Compulsory until May half-term and then optional for the final half term
Jumper	Plain black with Testwood badge. Optional to wear underneath blazer, NOT instead of blazer
Blouse/Shirt	Plain white and buttoned to the neck with a plain collar
Tie	School ties in house colours must be worn and are obtainable from Skoolkit. At least six stripes should be showing. Prefect ties must show the Testwood School logo.
Skirt	Plain black pleated 24" knee length skirt. Short and/or tight skirts are not acceptable for School and must be an appropriate length. Fashion, wrap-over or long skirts are not appropriate. Denim or cord skirts are not allowed.
Trousers	Plain black tailored School trousers. (Fashion trousers, e.g. very tight trousers are not acceptable). Denim or cord trousers or leggings are not allowed.
Shorts	Plain black or grey tailored school shorts are an option all-year round.
Socks/Tights	In plain colours only: white, grey or black socks or black tights should be worn. Socks are not to be patterned
Footwear	Totally black footwear which must fasten securely for safety. No other colours on the footwear and no air bubbles are permitted. No footwear above the ankle e.g. no ankle boots or higher, must be traditional shoe height. Low heels must be worn. Suitable footwear should be worn in snowy conditions.

D) PE Kit

House Polo Shirt – black with the house colour identified on the sides
Testwood Shorts – black with school logo Only other option if not Testwood shorts are totally black shorts of the same style
Performance Trousers/Leggings – Years 9-11 only – if leggings are the choice then these must be the Testwood leggings due to the material being a proven school appropriate choice
Testwood Skort – these are an option to wear for all ages
Dance T-shirt – for Key Stage 4 Dance classes only
Football socks – black as if a student represents the school, the team colour for socks is black
¼ Zip Sweatshirt to wear over the house polo shirt – optional for colder weather
Reversible Rugby Shirt – Required for rugby lessons as well as when representing the school – also optional for colder weather for all students

* All kit must be properly named and labelled.

General uniform guidance

E) Hair:

The school reserves the right to make a judgement on whether a student's hairstyle, hair colour or headwear is inappropriate for the school environment; however, the school will ensure that any such judgements do not discriminate against any student. Students with long hair must ensure that this does not impede their vision, cover their face, or cause a health and safety risk. Long hair must be tied up during practical lessons (e.g. during PE).

The following hairstyles, hair colours and headwear are not considered appropriate for school:

- Brightly-coloured dyed hair
- Excessive hair accessories
- Excessive tramlines in the back or side of the head

F) Jewellery/Badges:

A watch, one plain stud earring in either or each ear lobe and School badges are the only acceptable additions to the School uniform. It may be necessary to remove these items in some practical lessons. These items are not allowed in PE or practical sport lessons.

Bracelets, rings, facial or body piercings and any other items of jewellery are not permitted. However, specific and explicit permission may be given for jewellery items of religious significance to be worn.

The school does accept any responsibility for personal items taken into school.

G) Make-Up

Year 7, 8 and 9 students are not allowed to wear make-up. Year 10 and 11 may wear natural looking subtle make-up, but this should be only discreet mascara and/or foundation. No nail varnish, false nails or nail extensions allowed. Hand paint or henna is not allowed. Lipstick, lip gloss and false eyelashes are not permitted.

H) School Uniform Stockist:

School uniform is available from Skoolkit at Unit 1 Totton Shopping Centre, 1 Commercial Road, Totton, SO40 3BX. Telephone: 023 8066 7600. Website: www.skoolkit.co.uk

I) Assistance for Uniforms:

These are the key headlines regarding the support available to parents for the purchase of uniform items:

1. Testwood has a supply of 'pre-loved' uniform donated by school-leaver families. All items are kept due to the high quality and good condition and are available to support families on a daily or longer-term basis. To access this support, please email uniform@testwoodschool.co.uk. Further details can be found on the Testwood School website: <https://www.testwoodschool.co.uk/pre-loved-uniform/>
2. If you are receiving Free School Meals, or are eligible for Pupil Premium funding, financial assistance may be available to help provide the essential clothing items that your child needs to attend school. Requests can be made via the school office.

3. Support for the purchase of school uniform items from our welfare budget may be considered for other parents/carers. We would encourage parents/carers to speak with their child's Year Leader in these circumstances.

J) Procedure in the event of non-compliance:

Uniform is routinely checked at the start of each day during tutor time and tutors will request that any changes are made as necessary. For any student that arrives to school not in the correct uniform the tutor will:

- Ask the student as to why their uniform is not correct
- Offer a loan of an item if this is a blazer or tie, where possible
- Inform staff via email regarding uniform concern
- Parents/carers informed
- Incident logged on Arbor

If a student has not resolved the uniform concern within a reasonable or agreed period, the tutor will notify the Year Leader. Parents/carers will then be contacted to discuss a quick resolution. We may impose further sanctions if uniform is not correct in a timely manner.

K) Lost Property: (Please see our Lost Property page on our website for further information)

For items that are delivered to us named, we will communicate with students and reunite them with their property as soon as possible.

Property will be kept for 12 months. If the property is not claimed within 12 months, it will be donated to a charity shop in Totton at the end of the period. Unmarked items of school uniform, which are not claimed within the 12 months period, will be added to our second hand uniform supply. Other items of clothing, which are unsuitable for donation to a charity shop, will be placed in a supermarket clothing bank. Shoes and trainers will be treated in the same way.

This policy was approved by the Board of Trustees and will be reviewed annually.