



14th July 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

We would like to thank you in advance for your continued support in ensuring that students wear the correct school uniform. We are incredibly proud of how smart Etonbury students look in their uniform and appreciate the role families play in maintaining these high standards.

If a student's uniform does not meet our expectations, they will usually be spoken to as they arrive at the school gate by a member of staff. This allows us to address any issues promptly and work with the pupil to resolve them promptly in a supportive way.

We understand that from time to time some students may need to wear an alternative item of uniform, or make a temporary adjustment if an item is lost, broken or needs replacing. Where this is the case, we ask that you send the student to school with a note, or inform the school in advance via email of the personal circumstances and reason for the temporary uniform adjustment. Where possible please also include the date when the item will be replaced. We will support the pupils appropriately and follow the steps outlined below as per our behaviour policy.

Day 1 - Uniform pass is issued

Day 2 - Tutor phone call to parents/carers (if no communication from home is received regarding the uniform issue)

If a student is regularly not arriving to school in the correct uniform, the Head of Year or Key Stage Manager, will contact parent/s or carer/s to arrange a phone call or meeting. This provides an opportunity to discuss the issue and offer support where needed to help ensure that uniform expectations are met.

As we head into a new school year we are making an adaption to the school uniform, for all year groups. We are aware that many retailers provide a wide range of fully black shoes that are more aligned to a trainer. With this in mind students from September will be permitted to wear 'black on black' leather / leather effect trainers. The trainer shoe must be full black with no other colour on any part of the trainer. The sole of the shoe must be completely solid. Please refer to the illustration at the end of this letter to avoid unnecessary confusion in September.





I would like to draw particular attention to a few areas that can often be a reason for a uniform discussion with a pupil:

- School shoes must be leather shoes or leather effect fully black trainers. *(new for 2026)*
- Kilts must not be altered in length. All students have the option to wear trousers if they prefer.
- Jewellery; one ring and two plain studs are allowed
- If students wish to get their nose pierced it will need a clear retainer to be inserted into the piercing hole whilst at school or the piercing to be covered over with tape each day. Tape will not be provided by the school.

The uniform options are stated below and I have also provided you with some reminders on other aspects of our uniform within this letter. For compulsory items please check the school website.

YEAR 5 AND YEAR 6

Uniform Option 1	Uniform Option 2
Etonbury jumper (with badge) White button neck shirt (long or short sleeved) Etonbury tie Grey trousers/tailored grey shorts Plain black or navy socks <u>Black leather shoes or fully black trainers</u>	Etonbury jumper (with badge) White open neck blouse Grey trousers or skirt Navy knee high socks/tights (White ankle socks optional Summer term, no logos) <u>Black leather shoes or fully black trainers</u>





YEAR 7 - 11

Uniform Option 1	Uniform Option 2
Etonbury blazer Etonbury jumper (optional) White button neck shirt (long or short sleeved) Etonbury tie Grey trousers Plain black or navy socks <u>Black leather shoes or fully black trainers</u> Tailored grey school shorts	Etonbury blazer Etonbury jumper (optional) White open neck blouse Etonbury skirt or grey trousers Navy socks/tights (White ankle socks optional Summer term) <u>Black leather shoes or fully black trainers</u>

- Jewellery of any description is not encouraged and is not practical for many reasons. One ring and two pairs of small, plain stud earrings and a watch are the only items allowed. All jewellery must be removed for PE activities and any items brought into school are entirely at the student's own risk.
- Nose studs and all other types of facial piercing are not permitted, however a clear retainer can be worn in the hole of the piercing when at school.
- Students will be required to remove any item/s of jewellery which do not comply with the school uniform policy. These will then be confiscated by a member of staff and will be kept securely until they are collected by a parent or carer.
- Hair should be the students' natural colour, with no extreme styles, for example; shaved patterns in the hair. In addition, there should be no extreme highlighting or colour e.g. red, pink, blue, etc.
- Makeup and accessories should be minimal and discrete - a small amount of foundation, concealer and mascara are permitted. A clear/natural lipgloss is also allowed. We do not allow eyeliner, coloured lipstick, false eyelashes or nails or coloured nail varnish.
- Shoes must comply with our uniform policy - no visible logos, or, Dr Marten style boots, excessive buckles/accessories, canvas shoes or heels. A low boot may be worn. (please see illustration).





- No leggings, cropped trousers or denim are permitted.
- Skirts must be regulation length (unaltered).
- No badges other than school approved badges are to be worn.
- Hoodies are not permitted on site, including break and lunch time, unless by express permission for specific sporting teams, trips or events.
- Please ensure that all items of school uniform and PE kit are clearly labelled with your child's name.



Permitted footwear



Not permitted





Second Hand Uniform Sale

We hold second hand uniform events in the Spring and Summer Terms and publicise these on our Facebook page and in our half term bulletins. We are proud to support our local charity, The NEED Project who support many of our families, and simply request an affordable donation for your items.

I have added some frequently asked questions as an appendix to this letter which may also answer any queries you have.

Thank you all very much in advance of your anticipated support and understanding. Can I take this opportunity to thank you for your support so far this year. If you have any questions please contact the relevant Head of Year or mcraddock@bestacademies.org.uk and we will be happy to answer any questions.

Kind regards,

Mr Craddock
Senior Vice Principal





Frequently Asked Questions about uniform (FAQs)

What happens if I cannot send my child into school with the correct uniform despite making every attempt to do so?

If for any reason an item of uniform is damaged and cannot be worn, a note from a parent or carer must be provided and shown to the duty team on the gate before handing it to the form tutor or head of year. Pupils will be issued with a uniform pass until the correct uniform can be worn. We will expect a date to be given for when the replacement will be purchased. Students are also expected to wear loan items (blazers, ties, shoes) if requested. Any parent experiencing severe financial hardship should contact the Head of Year.

I would like my child to be able to express their religious identity.

Etonbury Academy is not a single faith school. Single faith school alternatives exist within the locality for those who feel strongly about this. We do not allow significant alterations to uniform or hairstyles. The exception is headwear which is important to more than one religion, and is permitted.

My child has a medical condition that makes wearing a uniform hard.

Upon presentation of medical evidence and following discussion with the Head of Year, adjustments may be made to accommodate students with medical issues. Wherever possible, we would seek alternatives that allow for the student to feel as comfortable as possible whilst not standing out significantly from peers. An updated medical note is needed every September for ongoing medical issues.

What will happen if my child refuses to follow the school's expectations?

We will contact you so that you can put in place the required support from home. In school, choosing not to follow our simple guidelines regarding uniform and hairstyle will initially result in the loss of social time for the student. Year teams will decide upon further action if the matter cannot be rectified in the short term. You will be informed of the concern and of the action being taken. Should there be continued refusal by the pupils to meet our expectations, consequences will be issued.





There are other students in the school with extreme hairstyles/uniform issues, what is happening to them?

We try hard to be consistent in our approach but there will always be occasions when issues are not immediately brought to our attention. Simply because a student has not yet been challenged, does not mean an item of fashionwear or a particular hairstyle has become acceptable. We seek to address all uniform issues in a timely manner and work with parents/carers to rectify the issue.

Why don't you allow certain hairstyles or fashion items in school?

We would like to cultivate an atmosphere where individuality and depth of character are expressed through academic and social creativity rather than appearance. Although allowing children to follow trends might seem harmless, it can have negative consequences for those children who cannot afford the latest fashion items or whose parents maintain stricter control over appearance. Many parents do not wish to send their children into an environment where the latest superficial and costly trends are permitted. The associated pressure to copy these can be a source of unnecessary anxiety, conflict with peers and family and, sadly, bullying. We also believe strongly that the tradition of uniform cultivates a stronger feeling of community, togetherness and high standards. The presentation of the students also reflects the reputation and standing of the school in the wider community.

What do I do if I don't agree with your policy on hair styles or fashion wear?

We would hope that by choosing Etonbury to educate your children, you will have already considered this prior to enrolment. However, if you feel the application of our policy in individual circumstances has been unfair or unreasonable (outside of the policy), then you can contact the school to request a meeting. We have set out our expectations clearly. We feel they are reasonable and have communicated them clearly to all parents in this letter.

