

13th February 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

As we approach the end of the term, we would like to thank you for your continued support in ensuring our students arrive at school looking smart and ready to learn. We are incredibly proud of the high standards our students maintain, and as we look forward to the start of the new half term, we want to ensure everyone is clear on our uniform expectations.

The importance of our standards: we believe that wearing a uniform is an essential part of preparing our students for life beyond the classroom. Adhering to a dress code fosters a sense of pride and professionalism that translates directly to the world of work. Whether it is a doctor in scrubs, a police officer in their tactical gear, or a member of a retail team in their branded attire, many career paths require a specific uniform to ensure safety, identity, and professionalism. By maintaining these standards now, we are helping our students develop the discipline and habits they will need to succeed in their future careers.

To help the return to school go as smoothly as possible, we have outlined our policy and a few key reminders below.

Uniform Policy & Support

We understand that over the break, items may need replacing or students may have outgrown certain garments. If a student is unable to wear the correct uniform for a temporary reason (e.g., an item is lost or broken), please send them to school with a written note stating when the item will be replaced.

In line with our behaviour policy, we will follow these steps:

- Day 1: A uniform pass is issued.
- Day 2: A phone call from the tutor to parents/carers (if no prior communication has been received).
- Regular Issues: A meeting with the head of year or key stage manager to discuss the issue and offer support.

Uniform Focus post February half term

Please take note of the following requirements to avoid any confusion or unnecessary spending:

- Skirts & Trousers: skirts must be worn as purchased and must not be altered in length. Please note that tailored grey trousers are a uniform option for all students, regardless of gender.
- Leggings, white socks, trainers are not permitted items of uniform.
- Blazers must be worn at all times outside of the classroom.
- School shoes: these must be leather shoes. Trainers are not accepted, even if they are sold in the "school shoe" section of major retailers.
- Jewellery: only one ring and two plain studs are permitted. (items will be confiscated, Parents or Carers will have to collect on the second occasion).
- Piercings: if a student has a nose piercing, it must either be taped over daily or a clear retainer must be used. These are not provided by the school.
- E-Scooters: If a pupil brings an E-scooter onto the school site, it will be confiscated and parents/carers will be required to collect it.

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 Black <u>leather</u> shoes (<u>no logo or 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) Black <u>leather</u> shoes (<u>no logo or 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 Black <u>leather</u> shoes (<u>no logo or 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) Black <u>leather</u> shoes (<u>no logo or black trainers</u>)

General Reminders:

- Hair: Must be a natural color with no extreme styles (e.g., shaved patterns, red/pink/blue dyes, or dip-dyeing).
- Makeup: Must be minimal and discreet. No eyeliner, coloured lipstick, fake nails or eyelashes are permitted. A small amount of mascara or lip gloss is allowed. No makeup of any kind is permitted in years 5 & 6.
- Hoodies: Hoodies are not permitted on site at any time, including break and lunch.
- Prohibited Items: No leggings, cropped trousers, denim, or canvas shoes/boots.

Second-Hand Uniform

We will be holding second-hand uniform events in the Spring and Summer terms. These will be publicized on our Facebook page. We continue to support The NEED Project and welcome affordable donations for these items.

Thank you for your cooperation in maintaining the high standards of Etonbury. If you have any questions, please contact your child's head of year via email.

Kind regards,

Mr Craddock

Senior Vice Principal

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Principal: Mrs Joanne Young



Frequently Asked Questions about uniform (FAQs)

Are pupils allowed to wear a second pair of trousers or shorts under their school trousers?

No: For safeguarding reasons it is common practice in schools not to allow this. We do however allow students to wear a sports legging/longjohn type under layer

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 this 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.

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.