



SIR THOMAS RICH'S Uniform Policy

This policy was drawn up in accordance with the DfE guidance: School uniforms, November 2021, and the statutory guidance Cost of school uniforms, November 2021.

Date reviewed: July 2023

Status: Statutory

Responsibility: The School's Senior Management Team (SMT) draws up and implements the uniform policy. The Trustees' Personnel Committee has responsibility for approving the policy and monitoring its implementation.

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1. Aims and Values

Sir Thomas Rich's School is a 'uniformed' school. The School believes that having a formal uniform sets the tone for productive learning but is symbolic of the shared pride in the values and aspirations the School holds as a community. Having a corporate identity engenders a feeling of belonging where all feel included and that any differences in family financial circumstances are not apparent. The School expects pupils to take pride in their personal appearance. The application of the policy is intended to prevent appearance becoming a distraction to learning, being used to draw attention, or to undermine the shared values of the community.

The wearing of uniform is something that extends beyond the physical boundaries of the school. This includes when pupils are making the journey to and from school, when attending educational visits, school fixtures, and serving as ambassadors for the School in the wider community.

There is a clear expectation that pupils attending Sir Thomas Rich's School wear the full uniform appropriately and that this expectation is supported by parents, as set out in our Home-School Agreement. The School will regularly seek feedback from pupils and parents regarding uniform. The uniform is a practical, smart, working outfit for school that represents good value for money for our parents. If parents or students are in doubt about whether a particular article of clothing is suitable or before making any decisions about altering hair colour or style, they should contact the relevant Head of Year.

This Policy should be read in conjunction with our Behaviour Policy.

2. Details of Uniform

The Sir Thomas Rich's School uniform is as follows:

- **Blazer** – Blazer with school crest. Years 7 to 11 wear a royal blue blazer and members of Sixth Form wear a navy blazer. The blazer should be worn during the school day, to and from school, but may be removed in lessons at a teachers' discretion and on the school field. Sixth Formers need not wear their blazers once studying in the Private Study Room or Learning Resource Centre (LRC).
- **Tie** - Years 7 to 10 wear our junior tie and Year 11 to 13 wear a senior tie. Those Sixth Formers who become School Captains, Observators (senior prefects), or Prefects can wear a Prefect tie. All ties must be done up neatly and at a length at least half-way down the shirt.
- **Skirts** - Navy, dark grey or black. Skirts should be of pencil, A line, or straight style, and no shorter than 5cm above knee level. They also should be lined and not tight fitting. Skirts should have no splits at the side and the split at the back should not be revealing. It will be the School's decision if we deem a skirt to have become too short.
- **Trousers** - Dark grey or black (light grey trousers, denims or jeans are not permitted).
- **Shirts/Blouses** – A plain white shirt/blouse with a formal collar. Long or short sleeve. The shirt/blouse must be long enough to be properly tucked into trousers/skirts and suitable to be worn with a tie with the top button of the shirt done up. Fitted or fashion shirts are not permitted. A short-sleeved shirt with the school crest is available for use all year; in the summer term the crested shirt can be worn without a tie and open necked. All shirts must be always tucked in, and the top button of the shirt done up.
- **Jumpers** (optional) - A plain navy, grey or black V neck jumper. Cardigans, hoodies, sweatshirts, and round-necked jumpers are not acceptable as part of school uniform, and they may not be worn as an alternative to outer coats. A pullover must not have any logos or writing. A pullover must not be worn instead of a Blazer.
- **Footwear** - Only black plain standard leather-style school shoes will be permitted; there should be no colour trim or unnecessary adornment. Black trainers, trainer-style school shoes, canvas-style shoes, backless shoe, suede look, etc will not be permitted. Boots are also not allowed. Pupils must be able to polish their shoes, therefore no patent leather shoes are allowed. Sixth Form pupils are permitted to wear brown leather-style school shoes.
- **Socks/tights** - Black or grey socks and black or grey tights (not patterned) are permitted. Over-the-knee socks are not permitted.
- **Hair** - should be neat, tidy, and clean without accessories. Extreme styles, unnatural hair colours, or other shaved shapes in the hair (such as tram lines) or eyebrows are not permitted. Hair should not be too long (significantly over shoulder length) nor too short (i.e. a minimum of grade 2).
- **Facial hair** – All pupils facial hair should be neat, tidy, and clean with no demonstrative styles.
- **Make-up** – Make-up should not be excessively demonstrative and should be appropriate for the workplace.
- **Nails** - Nail polish should be only of a flesh-coloured tone. No acrylic nails are permitted.
- **Jewellery** – Only Sixth Formers are permitted to wear jewellery. All jewellery worn should be simple and undemonstrative. Nose piercing of the septum are not permitted. Festival wrist bands are also not permitted.
- **Scarves/Hats/Gloves** – Permitted in winter months but cannot be worn anywhere inside the building.
- **Clothes worn for religious purposes** - A hijab can be worn but must be plain navy and must not cover either the face or uniform. A turban can be worn but must be plain blue or navy. Please contact the School directly should you feel that there is a need for any other item to be worn due to religious beliefs.
- **Outdoor coats** – should be removed when entering any school building. Any coloured or highly patterned hooded sweatshirts, tracksuit style tops, camouflage, denim, parkas, or leather jackets are not allowed. Pupils who cycle to school are permitted to wear a bright coloured cycling jacket which we deem essential during the winter months.
- **Mobile phones** - must be switched off (not just on silent) and remain in a pupil's bag whilst on the school site. There may be times in the school day when a member of staff deems it acceptable to allow a pupil to use their phone, for example during a lesson, to photograph a piece of work, to

access Satchel One, etc. Phones/electronic devices brought into school remain the sole responsibility of the pupil. If a mobile phone is seen or heard, then it will be confiscated.

The School will decide whether the item is returned to the student or to the parent. Use of Mobile Phones and Headphones is permitted for Year 11 to 13 in the Private Study Area, LRC, and during lessons if permission is given by a member of staff. Headphones may not be worn on the school site unless permission is given by a member of staff during the school day.

3. Sports Kit

The PE and Games clothing expectations are as follows:

Key Stage 3 Physical Education

All pupils should wear the STRS navy PE kit (crested) with white socks and non-marking trainers for all PE activities during the winter, spring and summer term. The only exception is for swimming, where pupils should wear navy or black tight-fitting swimming trunks or race shorts. Allowances to this are made in exceptional circumstances.

Key Stage 3 and Year 10 Games

All pupils will take part in rugby during the first term and therefore all will require studded boots and trainers (for inclement weather). In addition to this, pupils should wear the blue and gold STRS rugby shirt, navy crested shorts and school rugby socks.

For the summer term pupils should either wear the STRS navy crested PE kit or cricket whites, (consisting of a white shirt and trousers). These should be accompanied by white socks and trainers or cricket shoes.

All pupils involved with contact rugby should wear a mouthguard. All pupils involved with football should wear shin pads.

Senior Games (Year 11 – 13)

All pupils who take part in a physical activity for their Games afternoon should wear the following, blue and gold STRS rugby shirt or any other STRS branded rugby shirt, navy crested t-shirt, navy or white crested shorts, navy crested skirt or leggings, white or school-coloured socks and trainers or studded boots.

For the summer pupils can wear the above or cricket whites, consisting of white shirt and trousers, white socks and trainers.

All pupils involved with contact rugby should wear a mouthguard. All pupils involved with football should wear shin pads.

4. PA Uniform Shop

Please see our school website for information relating to our Parent, Teachers and Friends Association Uniform Shop. This will include a link to the online shop (www.strspa.co.uk) and information relating to price lists, order collection, appointments, contact details for the Uniform Shop, donations of previously owned uniform (POU).

5. Adjustments

The School will work in close partnership with pupils and parents where, for reasons such as disability, recognised religious observance, or gender dysphoria or reassignment, adjustments to the provisions of this Uniform Policy would be an appropriate form of support. The specific adjustments would be tailored to the needs of the individual pupil in each circumstance.