

St. Bede's Catholic School & Byron Sixth Form College



Bishop Chadwick
Catholic Education Trust

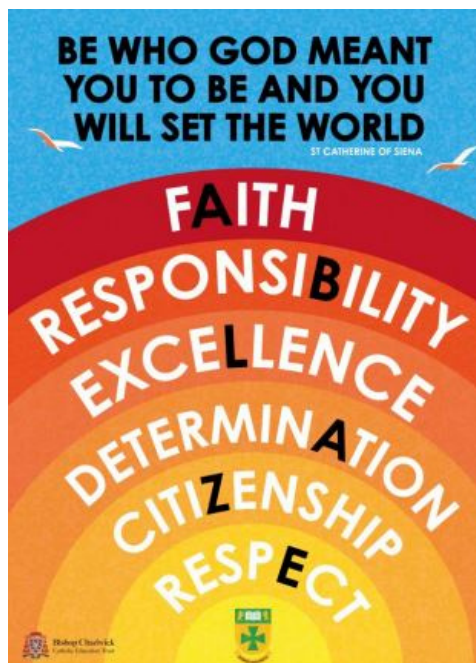


Policy Name	School Uniform Policy	Policy Period
Approved by	Interim Advisory Board (I.A.B.)	Sep 1, 2025 to Sep 1, 2027

School Uniform Years 7-11

- “Show you belong.”

INTENT



- Our school community identity is important at St. Bede's Catholic School and Byron Sixth Form; all pupils have a **responsibility** to celebrate being part of our school community by wearing our full uniform and showing they they belong. Wearing the same items promotes

equality. Consequently, we ask all pupils to show they **respect** the other members of our school community by wearing their uniform proudly.

- We hope our uniform is as affordable as possible and we can offer bespoke support to families that need help. Please contact your child's Head of House if you would like to access this support.

UNIFORM

- Pupils must be dressed properly in full uniform.
- **Available from The School Outfit** (formerly known as Little Gems):

🌐 St. Bede's Catholic Comprehensive School | The School Outfit

- Black blazer with school badge.
- School tie (green with gold diagonal stripes).
- **May be purchased from other retailers:**
 - Optional v-neck black knitted jumper (no other style of jumper permitted).
 - White, standard school shirt, buttoned to neck, tucked in at all times.
 - Plain black standard school trousers, worn to the top of the shoe (tight fitting / jeans style not permitted) or black pleated skirt (these are available in a two-pack from Asda and other retailers at an affordable price) worn to an appropriate length.
 - Plain black tights or white / black socks that are ankle length or below the knee.
 - Plain black formal shoes.
 - Sensible waterproof coat that must be removed when entering the building (within one minute is a reasonable request). This must be worn over the school blazer.

EQUIPMENT

- **Pupils must be properly equipped for every lesson.** They **must** bring a bag to school each day, containing:
 - 2 black pens.
 - 2 green pens.
 - Pencil.
 - Ruler.
 - Scientific Calculator.
 - Knowledge Organiser (provided free of charge; if lost, replacement **must** be purchased from school) and 100% Homework Exercise Book.
 - Planner (provided free of charge; if lost; replacement **must** be purchased from school).
 - PE Kit on appropriate days.
 - *A reusable water bottle is advisable.

OTHER

- **Trainers** must not be worn under any circumstances except for PE lessons unless a **medical note is provided by a GP**.
- Extreme **hairstyles** (tramlines, patterns, steps, unnatural colours) are not acceptable. The shortest hair grade accepted 'all over' is a number 2. If you are not sure if a hairstyle your child wants is considered extreme, please check with their Head of House first.
- **Make-up** (including false tan, fake/tinted eye lashes, false/enhanced/tinted eyebrows, false nails) will be confiscated and will require collection at the end of the school day. Jewellery and make-up is expensive and promoting equality is a key intention of our uniform policy. Light concealer may be worn but nothing else.
- **Wristwatches** may be worn.
- **Hats** must not be worn inside school.

PE KIT

- Pupils may only wear school-branded PE Kit, Fast Feet-branded Kit (if part of their curriculum) or plain black items.
- If a child's PE kit item is misplaced, parents must provide a note in in their planner and the pupil should bring another practical item to wear).
- Please note that PE will frequently be outside.
- **School branded items may be purchased from The School Outfit:**

🌐 St. Bede's Catholic Comprehensive School | The School Outfit

- Black polo shirt.
- Black shorts.
- Black school tracksuit bottoms (optional).
- Black ¼ zip school PE sweatshirt (optional).
- Black football socks.
- Trainers.
- Football boots.

FAST FEET KIT

- **Fast Feet Football Academy items may be purchased from Total Sport North East.**
- Please see the Total Sport website for the full list of items available:

🌐 St Bede's Football Academy PE Kit

ADDITIONAL RATIONALE

- **Equality Act 2010 - legal duties:** the Equality Act 2010 prohibits discrimination against an individual based on the protected characteristics, which include sex, race, religion or belief, and gender reassignment.
- To avoid discrimination, St. Bede's Catholic School and Byron Sixth Form:
 - Avoids listing uniform items based on sex, giving all pupils the opportunity to wear the uniform they feel most comfortable in or that most reflects their self-identified gender.
 - Ensures that our uniform costs the same for all pupils.
 - Allows all pupils to have long hair, though we reserve the right for this to be asked to be tied back from the face in practical lessons.
 - Allows pupils to wear headscarves and other religious or cultural symbols.
*Parents/carers to discuss this with their Head of House.
 - Allows for adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking pupils or their parents to contact their Head of House, who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any reasonable requests.

ADDITIONAL RATIONALE

- **Limiting the cost of school uniform:** St. Bede's Catholic School and Byron Sixth Form has a duty to make sure that the uniform we require is affordable, in line with statutory guidance from the Department for Education on the cost of school uniform.
- We understand that items with distinctive characteristics (such as branded items, or items that have to have a school logo or a unique fabric/colour/design) cannot be purchased from a wide range of retailers and that requiring many such items limits parents' ability to 'shop around' for a low price.
- We will make sure our uniform:
 - Is available at a reasonable price.
 - Provides the best value for money for parents/carers.
- We will do this by:
 - Carefully considering whether any items with distinctive characteristics are necessary.
 - Limiting items with distinctive requirements for items pupils could wear on non-school days, such as coats, bags and shoes.