



The Bridge Short Stay School

STUDENT DRESS POLICY

Lead responsibility for policy	A Stewart Date: June 2023
Approved (Head Teacher)	A Stewart Date: June 2023
Approved (Chair of Management Committee)	N/A
Date policy due for renewal	September 2025

Student Dress Policy

1. Introduction

Students attending The Bridge are enrolled at various times during the school year and continue attending the school for differing durations of time. As a result, we don't believe it is reasonable for parents and carers to incur the additional expense of buying a formal uniform.

It is also recognised that for a variety of reasons our students have struggled with uniform expectations in the past, as far as possible we aim to remove issues around uniform and clothing from being a barrier to accessing education.

Although there is no formal uniform we do have a set of expectations around student dress for a number of reasons

- to ensure that clothing is consistent with health & safety guidelines;
- to ensure clothing is suitable for a range of activities that students may participate in at an alternative provision setting;
- to promote a positive culture for learning;
- to avoid causing offense or distress to staff, students or visitors
- to develop positive habits in students that will support them in successfully meeting expectations in another school, college or workplace

This policy is intended to be gender neutral and is applicable to students of any gender

2. Guidelines

The following points are intended to provide an indication of expectations of the type of clothing that is/isn't appropriate. It isn't intended to be an exhaustive list of every clothing type possible. The Headteacher, or in their absence senior staff, discretion on what is or isn't appropriate for school is final.

- Clothing should cover the entire body from the shoulder to mid-thigh; crop-tops or other clothing that exposes the stomach are not permitted
- 'Short' shorts or skirts that don't extend to mid-thigh as per the point above are not permitted
- Clothing must remain worn as intended at all times e.g. taking off tops or rolling up shorts/skirts throughout the day
- Sensible shoes should be worn at all times, for health & safety reasons this means that high heels; strapless shoes; sandals or sliders are not appropriate
- Clothing must be free from offensive logos and/or wording including, but not limited to any racist, sexist, homophobic or drug/alcohol related content
- Nightwear including pyjamas, dressing gowns and slippers are not appropriate within the learning environment and therefore not permitted

As an alternative provision the timetable means that students can participate in a variety of activities throughout the day, including those of a practical nature. It is suggested therefore that clothing should allow for students to be physically active

throughout the day and not overly expensive due to the possibility of getting dirty throughout the day.

3. Implementation

Expectations are shared with students and parents/carers as part of induction into school with periodic reminders through tutorials and parent communications; this policy is also published on the school website.

These requirements are relatively straightforward and it is anticipated that the vast majority of students consistently comply with them.

In the case of students not complying with these requirements this will be addressed directly with students by tutors and communicated to parents/carers. In instances where this is repetitive and/or clothing is particularly inappropriate we reserve right to either require students to return home to change or for parents/carers to bring a change of clothing to school.