

Changes to the School Uniform



Changes to the School Uniform

From September 2025, there will be a change to the school uniform. Following discussions, views and meetings with parents, carers, Local Governing Body and the Student Voice, we will be removing the school blazer from the Shenley Brook End School uniform. The blazer will be replaced with a Shenley Brook End School embroidered jumper.

Rationale

The rationale behind wanting to remove the school blazer from our uniform policy is based on feedback from the students, parents/carers and the staff. It is the part of the uniform that our data shows is not worn as much as it should be. The students believe it is outdated, as when you look at the working world, there are currently less people wearing blazers, even in top tier careers/professions.

The blazer is also seen to be uncomfortable, with the majority of students preferring not to wear it.

After a period of consultation with staff, students and the Local Governing Body we would like to confirm a set of uniform changes for the 2025-2026 academic year.

The changes that are made apply to Year 7, Year 8 and Year 9 from September 2025. The changes would be optional to Year 10 and Year 11, as they are likely to be in a blazer that fits them until they finish at SBE, and we do not wish to introduce additional costs to those already made. Year 10 and Year 11 will still be required to wear the SBE blazer.

Secondary school can be a real worry for students with additional needs, particularly with regard to the uniform policy. Students and parents of young people with Special Education Needs report that one of the biggest barriers in school is uniform, including sensory issues with the feel of particular clothing.

In line with the Department for Education guidance on uniform for students with protected characteristics e.g. SEN, if a requirement within the school uniform will affect your child, please talk to us at school so that we can understand any difficulties s/he might have and agree any adjustments that might need to be made.

Any new starters that join the school during the academic year, will be directed to the new uniform policy which includes the new jumper with a logo.

The New Jumper

The jumpers that will be introduced as the new compulsory uniform item, in place of the blazer, for Years 7, 8 and 9 from September 2025 will identify the student's year group and house.

The jumper will have the appropriate year group colour displayed around the V-neck section of the jumper, with the school logo and house badge embroidered onto the left-hand side of the jumper. The house colouring will go around the outside of the Shenley badge on the jumper.

The school tie, as well as the rest of the school uniform, will remain the same as it currently is.

The jumper will be 100% acrylic. This material is classed as high end and should be longer lasting. The 100% acrylic material colour does not fade easily in the wash, with it also being a stretchy material, allowing for the jumper to grow as the child grows. Despite the 100% acrylic material being the more high-end material, it is cheaper than the 50-50 material through our uniform supplier Kedaph.



The Year Group and House Colours

The year group colours from September 2025 are as follows:

Year 7 – Blue

Year 8 – Green

Year 9 – Yellow

Year 10 – Red

Year 11 – Purple

The house colours are as follows:

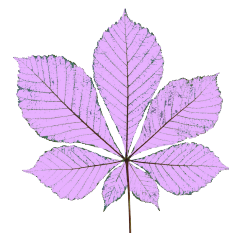
Sycamore – Orange

Birch – Blue

Elm – Yellow

Hawthorn – Green

Chestnut – Purple



Jumper Examples



This jumper has a year group V-neck colour of blue and house colour around the school logo of purple so will be for a Year 7 student in Chestnut house



This jumper has a year group V-neck colour of yellow and house colour around the school logo of blue so will be for a Year 9 student in Birch house.



This jumper has a year group V-neck colour of green and house colour around the school logo of orange so will be for a Year 8 student in Sycamore house

Costing

The price of the jumpers, for all sizes, can be found below. These prices have been confirmed with Kedaph, our uniform supplier.

Size 30 - 34 : £22.99

Size 36 - 40 : £24.99

Size 42 - 46 : £26.99

Below is a breakdown of the approximate price of a full set of school uniform per child. The costings are for the new uniform policy, with the embroidered jumpers in the first box and old uniform policy, in the second box with the blazers.

Costings for the new uniform, with the embroidered jumper:

Uniform Item	Branded?	Cost Per Item	Number of Items per Student	Total cost
Jumper	Yes	£26.99	2	£53.98
Shirt	No	£5.50	2	£11
Tie	Yes	£7	1	£7
Shoes	No	£35	1	£35
Skirt / Trousers	No	£10	2	£20
Total Cost				£126.98

Costings for the 'old' uniform with the blazers and without the embroidered jumpers:

Uniform Item	Branded?	Cost Per Item	Number of Items per Student	Total cost
Blazer	No	£33	1	£33
School Logo	No	£4.50	1	£4.50
House Badge	No	£2.99	1	£2.99
Tie	Yes	£7	1	£7
Skirt / Trousers	No	£10	2	£20
Shoes	No	£35	1	£35
Shirt	No	£5.50	Pack of 2	£5.50
Jumper	No	£17	Pack of 2	£17
Total Cost				£124.99

This costing is based on two new Shenley embroidered jumpers compared to 1 blazer in the current uniform policy. Both costing tables are based on a Year 11 student, with the biggest sizes available, therefore the pricing can be lower to younger students and cheaper for families to pay for. The reasoning for the cost and including the two jumpers is that following our parent forum, the majority of parents said that they would be looking to purchase two jumpers for their child.

Uniform Item List

Students in Years 7, 8 and 9 will be required to wear the following uniform:

Embroidered 'new' Shenley Brook End School jumper
Shirt
Tie
Skirt / Trousers
Shoes
Black socks
PE kit (more information below)

Students in Years 10 and 11 will be required to wear the following uniform. Students in Years 10 and 11 can opt to wear the jumper, but if not they will need to wear the blazer.

Blazer
Optional plain v-neck jumper
Shirt
Tie
Skirt / Trousers
Shoes
Black socks
PE kit (more information below)

PE Kit

In addition to the school uniform, PE kit needs to be purchased for Shenley Brook End students. In the past couple of years, the PE kit policy has been adapted and made more affordable for parents. There are now less branded items that are compulsory for students to have for their PE lessons. The following items are for PE, with the costings included:

Uniform Item	Branded?	Cost Per Item	Number of Items per Student	Total cost
PE Top	Yes	£16	1	£16
PE Hoodie (optional)	Yes	£21.00	1	£21
Plain Black Bottoms (leggings, tracksuit bottoms or shorts)	No	£10	1	£10
Trainers	No	£30 (Approximately)	1	£30
Studded Boots	No	£20 (Approximately)	1	£20
Total Cost				£97

Frequently Asked Questions (from consultations across the year)

Why do we have a school uniform?

Uniform is important to a school as it creates a sense of community and gives students a sense of belonging and creates an identity for our school within our local community. Students, parents and staff acknowledge it should be a proud item to wear a school uniform as well as creating a school ethos. If students are getting uniform right, then it also contributes towards good behaviour and discipline in school.

How does this uniform change promote positive relationships?

It shows that we have listened to feedback from parents, carers, staff and students on the appropriateness of uniform and trying to work collaboratively to have a uniform that all stakeholders are happy with.

What is wrong with the current uniform? Why the need for a change?

The biggest challenges we face and can lead to a breakdown in relationships between students and staff has been getting students to wear their blazers and having their blazers with them. It was clear that all stakeholders felt that a change was necessary. Students, parents and staff are seeing less of a need for blazers to be part of the uniform policy. Students do not like wearing them, so will choose to carry them instead, which often results in them getting left places and therefore lost. Blazers are an expensive item, resulting in a costly replacement when they are lost.

Does wearing a uniform help reduce bullying?

From our staff, parent/carer and student surveys all stakeholders realised that wearing a uniform reduces the likelihood of bullying taking place as there is no variance in student clothing.

What feedback has the school received about the current uniform?

The school has asked students, staff and parents/carers their views on the current uniform, including what they think is the most valuable item of clothing and why it is worn. Plus any potential changes that they would like to see to the current school uniform.

All stakeholders agreed that the item that they would like to change was the school blazers. The main reasons for wanting to remove the blazer and change to a branded school jumper were:

- It is uncomfortable
- Not having a need for it
- Many businesses not having the requirement to wear blazers in the workplace
- They get lost easily and are expensive to replace

All stakeholders who were asked said that the alternative would need to include a relevant house and year group badge.

How has the school consulted with stakeholders over proposed uniform changes?

The school has consulted widely to a variety of stakeholders. A Microsoft form survey was sent out to parents/carers, students and staff in October 2024, for them to express their views on the current uniform and potential changes. During staff briefings, information has been shared with staff, with the opportunity for them to share their views/opinions afterwards. The uniform changes were discussed at a parent forum, where feedback about the changes were collected from parents. We have also shared proposals and discussed this with the Local Governing Body on several occasions.

If there is a change to school uniform, what assistance is available to support families in purchasing the new uniform?

We are hoping to support families with the expenses as we will be giving them at least 6 months' notice about the change of uniform from the date we inform them, to when the changes are being introduced. The jumper will also be cheaper than the blazer, which will also help towards finances. If parents of pupil premium students require additional support with the costings, then please get in contact with the school (enquiries@sbe5d.com) regarding this.