

Tapton SCHOOL

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Uniform and Electronic Devices Policy

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COMMITTEE: Personal Development, Behaviour and Inclusion

LAST REVIEW/UPDATE: February 2022

LEVEL OF CHANGE: Significant

NEXT REVIEW: September 2023

First principles

Tapton School is a uniform school. We endorse the DfE's stance on school uniform (November 2021) and agree that it is key to:

- promoting the ethos of a school
- providing a sense of belonging and identity
- setting an appropriate tone for education

By sending their children to Tapton parents and carers are agreeing to this uniform policy and accepting their roles as outlined in the Home School Agreement; specifically, we expect parents and carers to support our uniform policy and procedures. The policy has been ratified by the governing body and we expect all students in Years 7-11 to wear our full school uniform without negotiation. In addition, we expect all students in Years 7-13 (and Year 14) to follow our policy on mobile phones, devices and headphones. This policy should be read in conjunction with the Whole School Behaviour Policy.

Following the publication of statutory and non-statutory guidance from the DfE (November 2021) our policy regarding school uniform was further reviewed by the school, the governing body and parents and carers to ensure Tapton School adhered to the guidance. Please see details below:

We believe parents should not have to consider uniform costs when selecting a school. We have liaised with uniform providers and selected a uniform which is both cost effective and offers the best value for money in terms of quality and durability. Our uniform does not differ from year group to year group, therefore, it allows families to recycle clothing where appropriate. The clothing we have selected allows students to be both warm and comfortable and offers flexibility throughout the year. We have also kept branded items (items with a Tapton logo) to an absolute minimum. It is possible to buy the bulk of your child's school uniform at affordable prices in a number of supermarkets and clothing chains. Alongside this we will advertise the availability of second-hand uniform through our normal communication channels and the school website. Finally, when making decisions about our uniform policy we have paid due regard to our obligations under the Human Rights Act 1998 and the Equality Act 2010 and the impact of our policy on students who have protected characteristics:

- sex
- religion or belief
- race (including colour, nationality, ethnic or national origin)
- disability
- gender reassignment
- pregnancy

School uniform

In Tapton all pupils wear this uniform:

- Tapton logoed polo shirt/long-sleeved in white or black or a plain white or black school wear polo shirt.
- Tapton logoed black sweatshirt or Tapton logoed black cardigan.
- Tapton logoed black fleece or plain black fleece.
- Students can wear either flat black full-length trousers, black tailored shorts or a black skirt. In the post COVID-19 recovery period we understand that families may need more flexibility around trousers that may fade with additional washing; therefore, until further notice we will allow students to wear trousers that have faded. **However, students cannot wear jogging bottoms or leggings. Trousers (such as cargo trousers) with cuffed legs are also not allowed.** The school reserves the right to have a conversation with a student where an item of clothing is inappropriate for a learning environment. In addition, students who contravene our uniform policy and/or wear inappropriate clothing will be given a non-negotiable same day detention.
- **All black** shoes or trainers without any coloured logo and without different coloured trims (not sandals).
- Flat all black below the knee boots
- Outdoor clothing (such as coats) are not worn in classrooms.
- No hoods or hats are to be worn in the building.
- Students are **not** allowed to wear their PE jumpers in lessons as part of their school uniform.

If you are unsure about your uniform purchases please contact school before you buy as failure to wear the correct uniform will incur a non-negotiable detention

How do we check uniform and maintain high standards?

Form tutors are responsible for equipment and uniform checks – they will check equipment and uniform every day. Form tutors will give students a green uniform slip when uniform is not 100% correct. This slip indicates that the form tutor has spoken to the child about uniform and passed their name to the Year Leader for detention. Students without an exceptional reason (and note from home) for incorrect uniform will be seen by Year Leaders and put into a same day sanction – 20-minute non-negotiable lunchtime detention. Year Leaders will make calls to parents and carers to alert them to the uniform issue where necessary, for example, where there is wilful and repeated defiance of uniform policy. A notification will always be sent to the parents and carers to alert them to the same day lunchtime detention. Repeated violations of uniform will initially result in contact with home and thereafter parents and carers attending meetings with Year Leaders. Names of students causing uniform concerns will be collated at the weekly inclusion meeting.

Our MIS is BROMCOM. This system allows us to record both negative and positive points for each student. Positive points are detailed in the rewards policy. Students will receive a negative behaviour point for incorrect uniform and these points will be added to the student's overall points total and inform our disciplinary interventions in line with our behaviour policy.

- Failure to wear correct uniform – 1 point

Mobile Phones, Devices and Headphones/Earphones and Confiscations

The rules around confiscations apply to all students Years 7-13 (and any Year 14 students). Mobile phones, iPods and other electronic devices such as wireless earphones are not allowed to be visible in the school building during our working hours – 9.10-3.30 – this is non-negotiable. This includes all areas of the Dining Room. If students choose to bring devices to school they must be put them away before entry into the building so they are not at all visible – this includes earphone cables hanging out of shirts and from pockets, headphones worn around necks and phones in hands. From the 9.10 bell any such items will be confiscated without discussion. If a child refuses to hand over the item on call will be used. The attending team will confiscate the item and inform the student of the same day After School Detention for defiance. Failure to hand over a confiscated item will result in a fixed term suspension. The first time an item is confiscated it will be held in the school office until the end of the school day. If a student has an item confiscated

for a second time the parents and carers must come into school to collect the item and to meet with the Year Leader, SLT link or Deputy Headteacher to discuss their child's refusal to comply with our rules.

Confiscation 1 (1 point)

- Item is confiscated and returned at the end of the first day. The student is responsible for collecting the item.
- 1 point added onto Bromcom log
- Automated confiscation letter sent to parents and carers advising of incident and next stage.

Confiscation 2 (2 points)

- Item is locked in school safe and a text sent to parents and carers alerting them to this.
- 2 points are added to Bromcom log.
- Automated confiscations letter sent to parents and carers asking them to collect phone and arrange a meeting with Year Leader/Assistant Head/Deputy Head as appropriate.

Jewellery

We discourage students from wearing jewellery and we can accept no responsibility for items which are lost, stolen or damaged. If your child is going to wear jewellery it should be sensible and kept to a minimum in accordance with the following guidelines:

- Earrings should be small and studs only. Large hoops or dangly earrings are a health and safety risk and we strongly advise students to not wear such items for school.
- No jewellery should be worn for PE or for out of hours PE activities.

Support with uniform

We regularly maintain our stocks of spare uniform; this uniform is clean and in good condition and is available to all families. We will advertise through our usual channels times when families can come into school to access these supplies. Depending on availability, one sweatshirt and two polo shirts will be issued per student. PE uniform will be issued as and when it is available. Families will be asked for a small voluntary donation of between 50p to a £1 to cover washing and packaging etc. Parents and carers can email: prelovedschooluniform@taptonschool.co.uk stating student name, items required and a contact name and number. A member of the uniform team will contact families to discuss sizes, availability etc.

Students who fail to wear the correct uniform or who require support will be given uniform from our stocks.

Our uniform providers are Pinders and myclothing.com. Their website can be found on the 'quick links' section of our website. Alternatively, please use the following address:

<https://pindersschoolwear.com/schools/236/Tapton>

Myclothing.com also provide Tapton logo polo shirts and sweatshirts:

<https://myclothing.com/tapton-school/5434.school>

A uniform donation box is located in the visitor reception area if any families wish to donate good quality, clean uniform items.