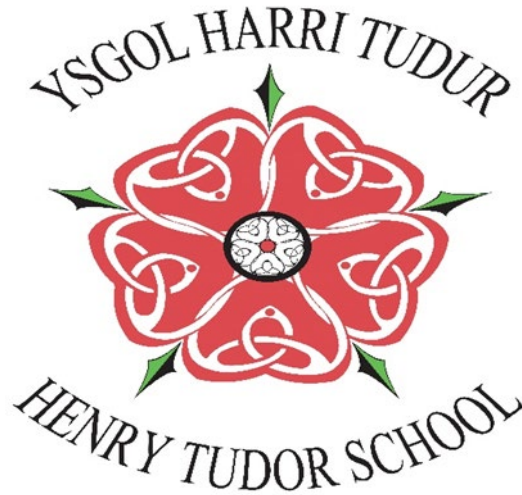


# Ysgol Harri Tudur



## Henry Tudor School

### School Uniform Policy

Spring 2018: Governors Resources committee encourages all staff to enforce the uniform policy

Adopted by Resources Committee in January 2019

Last Reviewed: Summer 2023

Review every 4 years

Next Review: Summer 2027

[Pending reapproval of addition of Kirpan appendix - March 2026]

# School Uniform Policy

## **Principles**

The school recognises that imposing a school uniform is a limitation upon freedom. It believes that this limitation is justified on the grounds that it:

- ❑ Establishes a common identity for students in the school, overriding social and cultural differences, which would otherwise separate students.
- ❑ Helps to build a sense of team spirit.
- ❑ Prevents competition between students for clothing and accessories, which are currently fashionable, reducing the pressure on students to conform in school hours.

The school accepts that there are counter-arguments, including teenagers' desire for self-expression, cost and inconvenience to parents/carers, time taken by school staff in enforcing uniform at the expense of education, coupled with the inevitable wish for adolescents to rebel against any imposed uniform; but on balance, Governors have agreed that uniform should remain and should be enforced.

The Governors believe that uniform should be inclusive at all levels – socially, culturally and religiously. It should promote high aspirations, including high standards of achievement and behaviour. It should promote safety in that uniform should aid identification of students (and by implication identifying those who are not students) and should consist of clothing and accessories that are practical and safe for use in school. As far as practicable, uniform should be easily available at moderate cost.

## **Consultation and Review**

The new school uniform for Ysgol Harri Tudur was decided upon following an extensive public survey of all stakeholders including pupils/students, parents/carers and staff in 2017. The outcomes of the survey gave a very clear indication of the need for a change to the old uniform and what those changes should be. The uniform has been implemented very successfully and the governing Body is committed to ensuring it remains suited to the needs of pupils/students, whilst reflecting the look smart, work smart ethos of the school.

The policy will be fully reviewed every four years.

## **Publicising the Policy**

The School Uniform Policy should be outlined in the school prospectus and the student Code of Conduct and available for inspection at the school office and on the school website. Parents/carers should have their attention drawn to the policy at Open Evenings for new students and a printed version should be in the information pack.

## **Enforcement**

The Headteacher is expected to enforce the policy, delegating this role as appropriate to teaching and support staff.

Governors will not hear complaints against staff relating to fair enforcement of the policy.

For minor breaches of School Uniform Policy, both teaching and support staff may use some or all of the following sanctions:

A student may be required to remove excess items of jewellery or clothing if this can be done safely and decently.

The students may be warned that their current dress is inappropriate and given a time limit to correct this (eg you must come in correct uniform tomorrow; within a week you must obtain correct footwear).

The student may be isolated from mainstream classes, including break and lunchtimes, until they agree to comply with the uniform rules.

The student may be sent home to change into proper school uniform or to dress properly. If this occurs, it should be made absolutely clear that this is not an exclusion and the student is welcome back in school properly dressed in accordance with the schools rules. This should be presented positively to the parent/carer and the student should not be punished further if they return with the matter satisfactorily resolved, unless there were other breaches of school rules involved in the student's defiance.

Where there are severe breaches of School Uniform Policy, the student should be sent home as soon as is practical.

Students must not be sent home unless parental contact can be established and either the parent/carer collects the student or agrees that the student should make their own way home. If this is not possible, then the students may be held in isolation until the end of the school day.

Again, it is emphasised that sending a student home is not an exclusion. Students are required to comply with the current school uniform rule. In the event that a parent/carer disagrees with School Uniform Policy, it should be pointed out that:

- ❑ They agreed to send their child to school knowing that this was the school uniform rule agreed by Governors, and
- ❑ If they wish to make changes to the school uniform rules, they should make representations to the Governing Body.

In the event that they consider that the school uniform rule breaches the requirement of the school to promote equality of race or religion, it would be appropriate to request that this is processed through a Complaints Panel. In most other cases, it would be a request to the Resources Committee to reconsider this policy at the next scheduled meeting. These meetings generally take place five times per year.

Parents/carers who withhold their child from school because of a disagreement about School Uniform Policy render themselves open to prosecution by the local authority because the absence will not be authorised by the school.

## **Particular Religious Policies**

### **Christianity**

There are no known religious dress requirements regarding Christianity. The wearing of necklaces or bracelets with crosses is not required and would be in conflict with the school's clear jewellery rule. Students wishing to carry a cross can carry it in a bag or pocket.

The school permits the wearing of one signet ring – this could be replaced by a chastity ring without breaching the policy.

### **Judaism**

It is unlikely that Jewish dress requirements would conflict with school uniform rules. Kippot would be permissible, but should be discreet.

### **Islam**

There is generally consensus among Muslim scholars that the Koran lays an obligation on Muslim women to dress modestly. There is no explicit requirement. Most interpretations of modesty are cultural rather than religious. Any clothing or accessory worn by a Muslim student must conform with the following requirements:

- ❑ Clothing should be in school uniform colours – that is predominately black and white, with a coloured marker identifying year group, and an Ysgol Harri Tudur / Henry Tudor School logo or badge on the upper body garment.
- ❑ Clothing must not completely obscure the identity of the student at any time.
- ❑ Jewellery must comply with the normal jewellery rules.

### **Sikhism**

- ❑ Clothing should be in school uniform colours – that is predominately black and white with a colour marker identifying year group, and a Ysgol Harri Tudur / Henry Tudor School logo or badge on the upper body garment.
- ❑ It must not completely obscure the identity of the student at any time.
- ❑ Jewellery must comply with the normal jewellery rules.

Sikhism requires that a baptised Sikh should carry a comb (Khangha); steel bracelets (Kara) and a short sword or dagger (Kirpan). These additions to the jewellery / accessory rules are permitted, but any kirpan must be ceremonial: that is, safe and

incapable of being used as a weapon. Please refer to **Appendix 1 – Guidance for Schools – Wearing of the Kirpan.**

### **Health & Safety**

No aspect of school uniform should be unsafe. This is particularly the case with shoes, where there is an absolute limit of 2 inch on the height of heels. Flip-flops are also forbidden as there is a significantly enhanced risk of injury on stairs. School trousers should be of an appropriate length to avoid the risk of tripping.

### **Concealment**

The school does not allow garments or accessories – whether in substitution for standard uniform or as additions to the uniform – which allow the student to conceal their identity. This is in order to promote identification and prevent bullying and misbehaviour.

### **Disabilities**

Reasonable adaptations to uniform will be made for students with relevant disabilities.

## **Non-uniform days and Sixth Form dress and the wearing of uniform during education visits**

Non-uniform days are occasionally used to reward students or to raise charitable funds. Sixth formers are required to wear uniform which is discretely different to Years 7-11 in that they are permitted to wear grey cardigans or jumpers instead of the compulsory blazer (a clear illustration of the 6<sup>th</sup> Form uniform is given on the diagram page at the end of this document).

All pupils/students are expected to wear school uniform whilst on educational visits and when representing the school offsite, unless the practicalities or health and safety considerations of the trip prevent them doing so. Clarification should be sought from the Headteacher or Educational Visits Coordinator in such matters.

Non-uniform days are occasionally used to reward students or to raise charitable funds. Sixth formers are not required to wear uniform.

In these circumstances, the clothing worn by students must still comply with some of the fundamental principles:

- It must be safe and practical for school use.
- It must not promote unacceptable messages – drugs, violence, racism etc. The headteacher or his representative will decide on limits of acceptability.
- It must not conceal identity.
- It must not be indecent.

### **Summary and Review**

The school Uniform Policy should be reviewed by consultation with a random selection of parents/carers, School Council and bodies representing major religious and cultural groups every 4 years.

#### **June 2011:**

The Governors Development committee requested that a review of choice, cost and availability of the school uniform should be carried out.

A questionnaire was distributed to parents/carers, pupils/students and staff, an analysis was carried out and discussed with the School Council.

It was agreed at the Governor Resources Meeting in February 2012 to relax the restrictions on hairstyle.

# Ysgol Harri Tudur / Henry Tudor School

Here is an illustrative guide to whole school uniform for all learners, from those joining **Year 7** to those returning to the **Sixth Form**. Almost all uniform items below are available from supermarket uniform ranges, in addition to official stockists. Embroidered items only available via [Tees R Us](#), [JackLand](#) or school uniform shop are marked with an \*. Click on the stockist's name for website link. Uniform is a very important part of our school identity - please help learners *look smart to work smarter*. The school shop also maintains a stock of new & good quality pre-worn uniform.

**Our core uniform:** Embroidered items are limited to compulsory **School Blazer** and coloured **Year tie**.



## Year ties are compulsory uniform items



**School Ties\*** are in Year colour and embroidered with school badge - available only through Tees R Us, Jackland and the School Uniform Shop. Please choose shirts that have a top button and ensure a generous collar size for comfort and growth.



## Sports Kit for all PE lessons and fixtures



**Important Notes:** Trousers and skirts should be traditional uniform style as sold in uniform stockists and supermarkets. Skirts must be worn at an appropriate length. Make-up is not permitted in Years 7-9, discrete make-up is permitted in Years 9-13. Jewellery is not encouraged, earrings should be stud or small hoops only, hairstyles and accessories should avoid extremes of fashion. The following items are **NOT** allowed: Hoodies or branded sweatshirts, white ankle socks over tights, no leggings other than in PE, no casual trainers such as 'Vans'. **Phoenix and Outdoor Ed / Military Prep classes are expected in full uniform**. Please contact your child's Mentor with any uniform queries.

# Ysgol Harri Tudur Henry Tudor School

Learners First Dysgwyr yng Nghyntaf

Headteacher/Pennaeth  
Mrs Fiona E.J. Kite  
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## APPENDIX TO UNIFORM POLICY

### GUIDANCE FOR SCHOOLS: WEARING OF THE KIRPAN

This policy is intended to provide advice to parents, learners and staff regarding the wearing of the Kirpan. In view of the fact that a number of Sikh students/staff have gone through the Amrit ceremony and are required to wear the "5 Ks", including the Kirpan, this policy has been created, based on guidelines issued by DfE. Section 4 of the Offensive Weapons Act 1996 creates the offence of having an article with a blade or point (or offensive weapon) on school premises, etc. Under Section 4, subsection (4), a person has a defence if the article in question is worn for religious reasons or as part of any national costume.

a. School staff should be aware that the wearing of the "5 Ks" at all times is of utmost importance and sensitivity for initiated Sikhs, and is the subject of vows made during the Amrit ceremony.

b. It is essential for an initiated Sikh to keep his/her vows, and this commitment, which is not entered into lightly or easily, should be respected by the school community.

c. The school has to balance the responsibilities of ensuring the health and safety of persons using the school premises, with the religious requirements of practising Sikhs.

d. The school's preferred option might be that a symbolic version of the Kirpan is worn. The symbolic version of the Kirpan should be no more than one and a half inches long, secured and sealed in protective padding or embedded on a Kanga (comb).

e. Paragraph (d) may be acceptable to a number of learners and students. However, if it is the view of particular students/staff that paragraph (d) previous does not satisfy their religious requirements, then the school will allow the Kirpan to be worn, subject to the following conditions:

- ✓ that it is restricted to students/staff who have gone through the Amrit ceremony;
- ✓ that the Kirpan, is no more than 6 inches long including the handle, will be sheathed and restrained with a cord, to the satisfaction of the school, in such a way as to ensure that it will be incapable of withdrawal;
- ✓ that the sheathed Kirpan will be further enclosed in secured padding and securely sewn up;
- ✓ that the Kirpan will be worn under clothing and will not be visible, to provide the highest possible safety at all times;
- ✓ that, on no account, will the Kirpan be drawn while the young person/staff member is on school premises whilst on a school trip or on school transport or involved in other school activity;

f. The learner and the learner's parent/guardian will be required to sign a declaration indicating that she/he is aware of the implications of the young person wearing the Kirpan in school and, in particular, during physical education activities, and that she/he waive any claims against the school, its servants or agents, and the Governors of the school;

g. If any of the above conditions have not been observed during the school day or

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whilst on a school activity, the Headteacher of the school has the discretion to exclude the student from a particular activity if she/he believes that the learner or others may be at risk of injury. In the event of serious or persistent breaches of the above conditions by a learner, the Headteacher may refuse permission for the learner concerned to wear the Kirpan whilst at school or on any school activity.

h. In the interest of safety, the school's preference is that Kirpans are not worn during physical activities or other outdoor activities which is still in accordance with the Sikh 'maryada' which states that the Kirpan should be worn on the person 'or as close as possible' at all times.

i. If the Kirpan is removed for any of the activities in paragraph (h) above, the Kirpan must be given to a member of staff for safe-keeping and collected after the activity is over. During this time the Kirpan must be kept in a box that respects it as an article of faith.

j. However, if parents of a student under the age of 18 decide that their child should wear the Kirpan during the activities referred to in paragraph (h) above, then the following additional condition shall apply:

- ✓ that the sheathed and securely padded Kirpan must be worn under the clothing and will not be visible, or carried in a small pocket in clothing being worn, so that it is safe for the wearer, never visible and so that other students have no access to it.

If the Headteacher considers that these requirements have not been met, he or she should take appropriate action to ensure the safety of all students. These guidelines will be regularly reviewed.



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