



Brine Leas School

An Academy

Believe, Learn, Succeed

Dear Parents and Carers,

I still remember the excitement of choosing my new pencil case, school shoes and hair cut ready for the new school year in September. I remember shirts that I would apparently grow into and a new lunch box that my dad bought me that had 'Bros' on the lid; I was 19 at the time and about to start my first year at university in Sheffield.

It's really difficult sometimes for parents/carers to say no to that grade 1 haircut or those plain black NIKE trainers when your child is giving a BAFTA winning performance to convince you that Brine Leas has lowered all of their standards over the six-week summer break.

I hope that the information enclosed gives a very clear indication of our expectations and standards and gives you some ammunition for your shopping trips in August. All students have been told in a recent assembly that they should expect to be turned around at the front gates if they choose to fall below our standards. If you would like any further clarification on any part of our uniform policy, please do read the information on our website or contact me at school.

I wish you a happy, healthy and sunny break and I look forward to welcoming our students back in September, ready to hit the ground running. We are currently reviewing our attendance and rewards/merits procedures and further details will follow in September.

Yours sincerely

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## Uniform

An integral part of the school ethos is the wearing of full school uniform. This promotes positive attitudes, high standards, and a sense of personal pride.

In our view, for a school uniform to be successful it must be: -

1. Simple and not open to various interpretations.
2. Distinctive and smart.
3. Easily and readily available.
4. Reasonably priced.

The examples given in the policy cannot be exhaustive and the school reserves the right to define, at an individual level, what compliance with the Uniform & Appearance Policy is. We would hope that all families co-operate with the spirit of this policy.

### **Students are expected to wear the correct school uniform as listed below:-**

- Black blazer with school badge (badge is embroidered with school logo)\*.
- School badge is available separately.
- Pullover Long sleeved 'V' neck black pullover.
- Black skirt with school logo (**must be a sensible length**), and / or black trousers with school logo\*, or **identical style**. Skirts must not be tight fitting, denim, cord or lycra material.
- Plain black tailored trousers. The trousers must have a hem and not be frayed or have a wide or narrow bottom. Trousers should not be denim, cord, lycra material or hipster style. The bottom of trousers should sit on the shoe and not cling to the leg
- Shirt Blue shirt with plain, undecorated collar. Not polo or lycra style.
- Plain black shoes (not open toe design, trainers, pump or canvas shoes, no stilettos, mules or sling backs, a proper heel not greater than 4cm - no coloured laces or stitching). Variations are only allowed if accompanied by a doctor's note and by prior agreement. Please note boots are not allowed. See attached diagram. \*
- Appropriate House tie# to be worn. The top button must be fastened and the tie knot placed at the collar of the shirt.
- Only plain black belts are acceptable.
- A house coloured craft apron# is required for Technology (only available from school).
- Most forms of sensible outdoor coats are acceptable. Casual leisurewear is not regarded as suitable for school. Coats and/or school hoodies must be removed before entering the building.

We would point out to all parents/carers that the one item of dress, which has caused the biggest number of discussions, is shoes. Please would parents/carers insist on proper black leather or leather look shoes and not trainers.

\* Available from the school or school suppliers.

# Available from the school only.



### **Socks**

Black, grey or navy socks. If tights are worn then socks are not necessary.  
Black tights only.

### **Bags**

School bags should be large enough to carry all equipment needed for the day and at least one A4 folder. In order to protect your child's posture, rucksack style bags are preferred and recommended. Fashion handbags are not allowed.

### **Nails**

Fingernails should be short and varnish free.

### **Jewellery**

One wristwatch is acceptable. Students with pierced ears can wear one plain gold/silver small studs in the lobe of each ear. The stud is to be placed in the earlobe. Nose studs (other than on religious grounds), other jewellery, piercings and badges are not allowed. Items that are not acceptable will be confiscated until they can be collected from the school office

### **Hair**

Students having long hair must fasten it back in laboratories and practical rooms and for PE. Extreme hairstyles are not allowed. (No hair shorter than number 2, no shapes cut into hair, no unnatural colours or unnatural combinations). The school reserves the right to make the final decision on what constitutes an extreme hairstyle.

### **Phones/earphones**

Phones and earphones should be out of sight on school premises at all times.

## **Attendance/punctuality**

We expect all students to have 100 % attendance and punctuality; with the exception of essential hospital appointments. Did you know that recent research is suggesting that:

- Students with 90-95% attendance will drop at least ONE GCSE GRADE
- 1-4 GCSE grades can increase your wages by 17%
- 5 or more GCSE A- C grades can increase your wages by 41%
- If you improve your attendance by 1% you could see a 5- 6% improvement in your attainment
- Employees with no qualifications earn an average of just £7.44 per hour.
- Those with only GCSE's earn £9.02 per hour.
- People with A-levels earned an average of £10.27 per hour.
- Students who graduate from university with a degree earn an average of £15.01