



South Dartmoor Community College

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Empowering everyone to be the best they can be.

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Dear Parent / Carer

Uniform update

In recent weeks, the Government has introduced new legislation for schools regarding uniform requirements. This is in support of parents and to ensure uniforms are, in particular, affordable. South Dartmoor fully supports this legislation and we continue to seek ways to work with and support our community, while ensuring we do not lower our standards.

Three years ago, we did a significant piece of work on our uniform in consultation with students, parents and staff, and we have already addressed the issues the Government is now trying to tackle. These include reducing the number of logoed items, getting rid of ties, opting for black shoes but not insisting on leather shoes and introducing optional jumpers in two styles, as well as running a second-hand uniform provision. In terms of legislation, we have met the requirements for September 2026 by only having three compulsory logoed items (a blazer, a PE shirt and PE shorts), and therefore, there will be no change to our uniform policy going forwards. The uniform will continue to be a blazer, a pale blue shirt, black trousers and black shoes. Students opting for a skirt must wear a school skirt with a logo available from SWI. Students may also opt for tailored black shorts.

Most students wear their uniforms correctly, smartly and with pride. However, some students who choose to wear the skirt, in particular, also choose not to wear it correctly. Some students choose to roll their skirts up and some even re-hem the bottom so it sits at a much shorter length. The correct way to wear a school skirt is so that it comes to just above the knees and the logo is on show at all times.

Although we will not be making any fundamental changes to our uniform policy, we will be enforcing our current policy. From week beginning 8 December any student found not to be wearing their uniform correctly will be advised (through a conversation only but logged on Class Charts) that after the Christmas break, students will be asked to go to Reception where they will be provided with correct uniform to change into. Students will not receive a warning after the Christmas holidays. Staff will continue to log all equipment and uniform issues using Class Charts during the run up to the holidays.

We currently do this for any student not in correct uniform, for example, anyone who is wearing jeans (they are given a pair of trousers to change in to), tights with holes or in a poor state of repair (they are given new ones to wear) and for students in non-black trainers (they are given black shoes to borrow). These instances are few and far between but disappointingly get in the way of learning and education. We wish to keep uniform issues to a minimum so we can focus on the reason children come to school.

To support the enforcement of our uniform policy, from Monday 5 January any student wearing a skirt incorrectly (rolled up so the logo is not visible or worn so it is not just above the knee) will be asked immediately to go to Reception to change into trousers. The option of a school skirt will be removed for those students who choose not to wear it correctly.



It is important to stress that the school skirt is an optional item. Students should wear black trousers if they choose not to opt for a school skirt. The trousers must be black, formal, pressed full length trousers, not clinging nor made from stretch fabric. Any form of denim is not acceptable. Trousers must also cover the socks. Smart tailored, hemmed cotton shorts are acceptable to wear school. We have suggested (below) some retailers and associated costs for students who want to wear trousers to school.

Year 11 will continue to have uniform issues logged on Class Charts but will not be asked to go to Reception to change. We feel this is reasonable adjustment to make in the lead up to the exam period. We would also not expect Year 11 students to go out and buy new black trousers to replace skirts. Uniform issues will be logged and form part of the 'passport to celebration' events.

Suggested retailers and approximate prices

SWI (school online provider) https://www.swischoolwear.co.uk/	SDCC logoed skirt Black trousers	Start at £19.10p Start at £14.00p
TRUtec Premium Senior Girls Tailored School Trousers (11-16+ Years)	Black trousers	£13.50p - £17.50p
School uniform shop Winterbottom's Girl's Junior Slim Fit Trousers - Black Girls' School Trousers School Uniform Shop	Black trousers	£16 to £18
Sainsbury Girls' Tops And T-Shirts Tu clothing	Blue shirts Shorts Trousers	£4.50p 2 pack £8.00p 2 pack £9.00p
Additional suppliers 2pk Girls Regular Leg Trousers (2-18 Yrs) M&S M&S The Very Collection Girls 2 Pack Woven School Trouser Regular Fit - Black Very Senior Girls Black Tailored School Trousers School George at ASDA		

Getting it right – Uniform

Acceptable trousers Black formal, pressed full length trousers (not clinging nor made from stretch fabric).	Trousers that are not acceptable Trousers that are tapered, flared and/or elasticated are not permitted. Leggings and any form of denim are also not acceptable.
	

All SDCC logoed items must be purchased through SWI. Uniform orders can be placed directly via their website at: <https://www.swischoolwear.co.uk/> or via the telephone on 01928 752610. To purchase uniform from their website you will need to create an account which then will give you access to the online shop. All queries regarding sizing are available on their website, and any issues regarding placing an order, ranging from technical help with the website to tracking orders, should go direct to SWI. We are able, in conjunction with SWI, to offer a free delivery service to SDCC for items you order. As items arrive, they will be available for students to collect from Main Reception after school each day.

Thank you for your continued support.

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