



# St Benedict's

## Catholic College

GMU/AVE

September 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

### **Re: School uniform expectations**

Please find below some helpful reminders regarding our well-established uniform expectations. You can also refer to our uniform policy, which can be found on our website on the Parents & Carers / Uniform page, within the Uniform Policy / Dressing for Excellence link.

Our college uniform policy exists to encourage *“a sense of equality and cohesion where clothing is not used to highlight levels of family income, create social hierarchies or label students as members of identity groups (other than religious) since this is at odds with the culture of the college.”*

Considering this, we would like to highlight the following expectations:

#### **1. School Shoes**

Plain black flat leather (or faux leather) shoes of a formal and traditional style (no boots, trainers/sports shoes, canvas shoes or other footwear such as vans/converse/plimsolls or similar). Shoes must not display flashings or logos of any kind. Students with a medical note may be allowed to wear suitable alternatives (for a short period of time), but they will also need to be black and discreet. This should be agreed with the student's pastoral lead or Mrs Verhofstadt, Director of Achievement & Behaviour, in advance of the college day.

#### **2. School Skirt**

Smart, pleated, grey skirt of knee length; not rolled or altered in anyway.

#### **3. School Trousers**

Smart, tailored, plain black trousers only. Plain style belts with small buckles are allowed.

#### **4. School Jumpers**

While the blazer is compulsory, an optional plain black V neck jumper (no logo) can be worn under the blazer but not instead of during colder seasons. Jumpers must not be worn during the summer term and the college will let students know each year when jumpers can and can't be worn – this is at the Principal's discretion.

#### **5. School Socks**

Socks must be black, in line with uniform expectations. Socks should be ankle or knee length. Students should bring spare socks on the days they have PE if they wish to wear white socks with their sports trainers.

#### **6. School Bags**

All bags should be sensible and practical and have the capacity to hold textbooks, folders and equipment. Fashion bags or designer bags / handbags are not permitted. Separate PE bags are encouraged to be used.

#### **7. Hairstyles**

Hair or hair extensions must be a natural colour. Haircuts must not be shorter than number 2. No extreme hairstyles or colours are permitted.

**8. Overcoats/Jackets**

A plain style in a single dark colour free of markings. No fashion jackets. Hooded sweatshirts/tops should not be brought into college. Students must wear their college blazers or carry it with them during warmer weather (announcements will be made when this will come into effect).

**9. Make up**

No makeup, nail polish or false nails/eyelashes.

**10. Jewellery / Piercings**

Students are allowed to wear a single small stud in each ear. The only jewellery that is allowed is a wristwatch, which must be an analogue watch and not a smartwatch. Facial piercings are not permitted and will need to be removed.

Dressing in a smart and professional way prepares students for success in the wider world of further education and work. We work within the 'St Bens sharp' principle; 'sharp tie', 'top button done up', 'Blazers on', 'skirts unrolled', 'shirts tucked in'.

We would like to thank you for your continued support in maintaining the high standards we expect in our college.

Yours faithfully

Mr G Muttock  
Assistant Principal