Christopher Whitehead Sixth Form Dress Code

Introduction

Christopher Whitehead Sixth Form is a professional environment, and sixth form students are seen as role models for the whole school. As senior students in a school environment, all students are expected to dress smartly. The dress code which follows aims to ensure that sixth form students dress in a manner that is appropriate for a professional workplace, extremes of fashion will not be permitted.

The rationale of the dress code is:

- To provide a dress code that is acceptable and fair to everyone and appropriate in a school environment.
- To enable us to maintain positive relationships between staff and students and minimise conflict between parties, allowing staff to focus on the academic performance of the students.
- To provide a dress code which is inclusive and does not place unreasonable/ excessive costs on parents.
- To allow a degree of freedom and independence within a reasonable, mutually agreed framework.

The following guidelines are applicable to all students:

Category	Smart/Casual
Trousers/ Skirts	Smart, suitable for a professional work environment. Chinos, jeans and tracksuit bottoms can be worn, but must not be ripped. The following are not permitted: • Army trousers • Jogging bottoms / lounge wear (oversized / baggie in design) • Leggings or Jeggings worn as trousers Leggings/ jeggings are allowed if worn beneath a longer top/ dress/ skirt. Skirts and shorts must be at least mid-thigh length. No underwear should be visible.
Tops/ shirts	Tops that expose the abdomen or are low cut and exposing the chest are not permitted. No large/ obvious or offensive artwork or, logos or slogans are allowed.
Jackets / jumpers/ cardigans/ hoodies	No offensive artwork, logos or slogans are allowed. Hoods of jumpers are not to be worn indoors.
Shoes	Shoes should be smart, and suitable for a professional work environment. Heels and fastenings must not be detrimental to student safety. Open toe shoes are not permitted. Crocs and open toe footwear are not permitted.
Outdoor coats	Outdoor coats should be removed when entering a learning environment.
Hats and headwear	Outdoor hats / caps should be removed when entering the learning environment. It is our expectation that a student's whole face should be visible in school.
Sunglasses, headphones and phones	Sunglasses should be removed when entering a building. Headphones and phones are permitted in the sixth form centre but must not be used around the school in accordance with the whole school policy. Phones may be used in lessons ONLY to support learning and at the agreement of the subject teacher. No mobile phones to be used when walking around setting.

To support our students in feeling comfortable and confident for slightly more formal occasions we are introducing "Dress up Days" on calendared days. This is to encourage our students to wear clothes that would be suitable to attend work experience placements, university, apprenticeship or employment interviews. These are activities that all students within our sixth form will participate in during their studies. We wish to avoid students and parents having to go out and make one off purchases for these types of clothes for such events. Our intension is to ensure everyone gets sufficient wear out of the items they already have and does not require anyone to go out and buy suits, ties, shirts, but explore and wear clothes already in their wardrobes that look suitable for these more formal / professional occasions.

The following acts as guidance regarding the types of clothes we'd encourage students to wear.

Category	Smart employment wear
Trousers / Skirts	Smart, suitable for a formal occasion. Chinos, linen, cotton rich, corduroy, smart jeans. The following are not permitted: • Tracksuit bottoms • Army trousers • Leggings or jeggings worn as trousers Leggings/ jeggings are allowed if worn beneath a longer top/ dress/ skirt. Skirts can be worn, if they are of mid-thigh in length or longer.
Tops / Shirts	Smart, suitable for a formal occasion. Shirts (short or long sleeve), blouses (e.g. sleeved popover style), polo shirts (no large artwork / offensive slogans), short or long sleeved cuff tops.
Jackets / jumpers / cardigans	No offensive artwork, logos or slogans are allowed The following item is not permitted: • Hoodies
Shoes	Shoes should be smart, and suitable for a professional work environment e.g. leather, material mix, patented, suede. Shoes or boots can be worn. Footwear must be safe and suitable for the school environment, therefore heels and fastenings must not be detrimental to student safety. Crocs and open toe footwear is also not permitted.

Notes:

Due to constant changes in fashion, it remains the right of senior members of staff and the Head of Sixth Form to determine whether a student's personal appearance is appropriate for a school sixth form environment.

We endeavour to maintain a positive relationship between staff and students, and therefore politely request that all students adhere to this policy.

Dress Code Agreement:

I have read and understood the rationale and guidelines of the Sixth Form Dress Code and agree to abide by the Dress Code.

Name (printed in block capitals):

Signature (student):

Date:

Please return this slip to your Personal Tutor.