



METHODIST COLLEGE BELFAST

UNIFORM REGULATIONS

2022-23

Our uniform identifies pupils as part of the Methodist College community and instils pride in it. Being appropriately dressed helps pupils to develop a positive mind set for learning and supports them in being successful, creative and happy. When in uniform all pupils are ambassadors of the school and it is important they look and behave appropriately at all times; be it in school, when travelling to and from school or when representing the school at an outside event. Parental support in this area is important.

Official Outfitters for Uniform

CA Gowdy Ltd	121-131, Woodstock Road, Belfast
David Gotto	72, Stranmillis Road, Belfast
McCalls	20-24, Market Street, Lisburn
Warnocks	791-792, Lisburn Road, Belfast

Financial Assistance towards the cost of school uniform is available for some pupils through the Educations Authority's clothing allowance. The eligibility criteria are the same as those used for free school meals. Please contact the Head of Pastoral Care, Mrs Kennedy for more information. There is also a Principal's Discretionary Fund details of which can be obtained from the school website or the Principal's office.

Second-Hand Uniform Items

Stocks of second-hand MCB uniforms are often available from the Save The Children shop (Tel 02890 249549) 12 Botanic Avenue, Belfast & Ten Foundations, 355 Lisburn Road, Belfast.

Uniform list

- Navy Blazer (boys' or girls') with embroidered logo. Sixth Form blazer for Sixth Form pupils.
- White button neck shirt/blouse. It should be tucked into trousers/skirt at all times.
- Methody regulation skirt (navy for Forms 1-5, grey for Sixth Form), worn no shorter than knee length with plain, black opaque tights or grey socks, or,
- Dark charcoal grey, traditional school trousers. Full length & regular fit. To be worn with plain black or grey socks.
- School tie, to be worn up to the top button (fastened) and tied correctly with the College symbol visible below the knot. Other ties (e.g. sports/society ties) are not permitted.
- Plain black school shoes with no more than 6cm heel. *Please see guidance on acceptable styles.*
- Methody regulation navy or grey V-neck knitted jumper may be worn.

The following items should not be worn:

- Chinos, jeans or 'jean like' trousers, skinny jeans or leggings.
- Hooded tops/sweat-tops apart from # (see Regulations following)
- Non-uniform cardigans/jumpers
- External coats/jackets are not to be worn inside the school building.

All items of uniform should be labelled with the pupil's name. Pupils who lose items of uniform/equipment should check Lost Property.

Footwear Regulations

Below are examples of **acceptable** footwear.



Please note that the following **do not** conform to the College regulations and **must not** be worn with College uniform:

- Shoes with white or coloured soles/rim/logos/trainers or trainer type shoes;
- shoes with suede, Nu- buck or canvas finish;
- stiletto/ kitten /wedge heels/ platform shoes;
- ballet pumps;
- boots/fashion footwear above the ankle.

Advice on wearing the school skirt. The skirt should be worn to sit at knee level as shown below. It should not be altered in terms of length. Skirts purchased which are too short will have to be returned and you will be asked to purchase a new skirt of the appropriate length. In Forms 1-5 pupils wear the navy skirt, 6th Form wear the grey skirt.



Regulations

- Hair should be neat and tidy, natural in colour and conventional in style (minimum #2 clipper, *medium/high/skin fades are not permitted i.e. the scalp should not be visible*).
- Nails should be natural in colour and should be an appropriate and safe length for a working environment.
- If worn at all make up should be subtle and natural in appearance.
- The following piercings[&] are permitted: ear (no more than 2 small, plain studs/sleepers per ear); nose (a single discreet stud).

Parents/students must ensure that new piercings are done during the summer period to allow for removal from the start of term.

- Pupils will be required to remove the following if worn: bars, spacers, hoops and any other facial piercing (e.g. in septum, on eyebrow, on lip).
- If jewellery[&] is worn it should be appropriate and safe for a working environment and not extreme. Pupils are discouraged from wearing valuable items in school.
- Visible tattoos are not permitted.

A **plain navy** fleece (no other colours including black are permitted) may be worn during inclement weather under the blazer, to and from school, but **must not** be worn during the school day.

& All jewellery and piercings must be removed prior to PE and Games classes. In the case of a new piercing that cannot be removed, a **clear flat top plastic retainer** must be purchased and worn. The inability to remove a new piercing will not be deemed an acceptable reason to be excused from PE or Games.

Additional Guidance

All pupils are required to conform to these regulations. The cooperation of parent(s)/guardian(s) in this respect is expected. Only regulation uniform should be worn. Infringement of the uniform regulations will result in the issue of a sanction in line with the College's Positive Behaviour policy.

If for any unavoidable reason a temporary deviation from the Uniform Regulations is required, a written request should be made to the Head of Form. (For example, a pupil may be unable to wear their complete school uniform due to a broken leg or arm. If this is the case, full school tracksuit or tracksuit bottoms and regulation top may be worn).

Deviations from these regulations on the grounds of religious beliefs may be permitted. If the adjustment is not a previously agreed change a request should be made in writing to the Vice Principal (Pastoral) for consideration.

Individualism is not an acceptable reason to depart from the regulations.

The College reserves the right to issue further guidance to pupils during the school year in the event of fashion trends impacting adversely on pupil appearance.

Information about PE and Games Uniform

The items of PE and Games uniform can only be bought from the Canterbury School Shop located in the College (with the exception of those items marked with an *). The shop is open on **Friday** before school and at lunchtime on **Tuesday, Thursday and Friday** during term time. It is open at other times during August, before the start of the autumn term. Details of all opening times are available on our website www.methody.org.

Pupils going home after Games or after school practices are permitted to wear either **full school uniform, including blazer**, or **navy blue track suit bottoms and top/regulation hoodie**, (but not a mixture of school uniform and Games/PE kit.). **Leggings are not an acceptable alternative.**

If a pupil is representing the College on a team, **agreed MCB apparel** must be worn.

Uniform Regulations for ALL Pupils involved in Sporting Activities during the School Day other than Afternoon Games

If pupils are involved in a sporting activity from the beginning of the school day they may only come to school in their **full** tracksuit if they have been given permission to do so by the Head of PE. **Shorts or leggings must not be worn throughout the school day.**

If pupils are leaving for a sporting activity **during the day** they come into school in their uniform and they change at the following times:

- Leaving between break and lunch – change at break time;
- Leaving after lunch – change at lunch time;
- Leaving at the end of school for a match or practice – change after school.

If pupils return during the course of the school day they must change into full uniform.

PE and Games Uniform

Girls Compulsory items

- Polo shirt
- Lycra shorts
- White ankle socks*
- Non-marking training shoes* (no fashion trainers)
- Games skort
- Hooped Games socks

Boys Compulsory Items

- Athletics vest
- White shorts
- White ankle socks*
- Non-marking training shoes* (no fashion trainers)
- Rugby shirt **OR** Hockey polo shirt
- Navy rugby shorts **OR** navy hockey shorts
- Hooped Games socks
- Rugby/football boots are required if playing rugby*

Optional Items: Track suit bottoms (strongly recommended), hooded top, fleece, leggings.

PE and Games Uniform should be purchased from the online school shop, with the exception of those Items marked *.

It is strongly recommended that:

- in contact sports mouth guards and shin guards are worn;
- in sunny weather sun cream should be applied.