PRINCIPAL: S.W. BLACK, M.Sc.



BALLYMENA ACADEMY, GALGORM ROAD, BALLYMENA, CO. ANTRIM. BT42 1AJ

TELEPHONE: 028 2565 2782/3 FAX: 028 2563 0855

Dear Parent/Guardian, May, 2024.

Please find enclosed a Boys' School Uniform List for 2024/2025.

We feel that it is extremely important to maintain high standards in uniform as students travel **to and from** school, and during the school day. I know that we can count on your support in this matter. With this in mind I would like to draw your attention to a number of points which relate to the **attached uniform list**:-

- 1. <u>Footwear</u>: In order to avoid having to replace inappropriate footwear, parents and pupils are advised to take the uniform list with them when purchasing shoes. We are very well aware that footwear is the most expensive uniform item and do not want parents to have to replace unsuitable footwear. Footwear will be checked at the start of the year and home contacted if footwear is considered to be non-regulation. Please note coloured stitching is not permitted
- 2. <u>Coat</u>: If a coat is worn, the blazer should also be worn and not carried in a schoolbag nor left in a locker. Coats should not be worn under the school blazer.
- 3. <u>Micro-Fleece</u>: If a Fleece is worn it must be the official navy-blue school micro-fleece. Hoodies (including school hoodies) should not be worn under the blazer.

  N.B. Micro-fleeces (from different manufacturers) are available from the 'School Shop' or official school suppliers.
- 4. <u>Scarves</u>: If a scarf is worn it must be a regulation scarf. School scarves are not only warm but complement the style and colour of our uniform and should last for a pupil's school career.
- 5. <u>Sportswear</u>: The school regulation sportswear is Canterbury branded items bearing the school crest. Please read carefully the guidance notes for sportswear, listed on the attached Uniform Regulations. Only items listed may be worn.
- 6. <u>P.E./Games</u>: All boys are required to wear a dark navy T-shirt for P.E. and the school rugby jersey during games periods.
- 7. <u>Appearance</u> (Extract from Pupil Code of Conduct): Pupils should:
  - Take pride in their appearance.
  - Wear regulation uniform only, both in school and on the way to and from school.
  - Be neat and tidy in appearance at all times (ties must be properly knotted and of an appropriate length, collars buttoned, shirts and blouses tucked in; blazers should be worn in corridors except in very warm weather).
  - Be well groomed. Hair must be kept tidy and of a style and length acceptable to the school. For guidance, it should not be worn over the eyes or obscure vision at any time; boys' hair should be no longer than the top of the blazer collar. Extremes are to be avoided and bleaches or dyes that are in blatant contrast to the natural hair colour are not permitted. Shaven hair (below "number two") is not acceptable under these regulations. Boys should be clean shaven.

Pupils should be aware that:

- Visible tattoos (body art) are not permitted.
- Ear cuffs and all facial jewellery are unacceptable. (Pupils are advised that sufficient time during holiday periods should be allowed for healing after a piercing.)
- If a hoodie or fleece is worn it must be an official navy-blue school hoodie or microfleece. Other hoodies and fleeces are not permitted at any time.
- School micro-fleeces may be worn under the blazer on the way to and from school but removed prior to the commencement of the school day, except in winter months as permission is indicated. Hoodies (including school hoodies) should not be worn under the blazer.
- School jumpers/pullovers may be worn under blazers at any time. Coats and hoodies should not be worn under the blazer at any time.
- The school reserves the right to remove non-regulation items and ask parents to collect them from the school office.
- Outside of PE, games or organised activities, e.g. teams, unless specific permission has been given by staff, pupils should not be in sports kit other than for the actual activities. Where permission is given, regulation tracksuit bottoms must be worn: wearing shorts only, is not permitted.

Pupils may wear:-

- One watch, one signet ring and, at most, one stud per ear.
- **Lapel Badges** no more than three from official school badges, B.B., Scouts, Duke of Edinburgh, S.U., sports participation (Province, Ireland), Blood Donor.

**In exceptional circumstances,** written permission to wear non-regulation uniform should be obtained from the Head of Year. Where items of non-regulation uniform are worn without permission, the school reserves the right to remove the items and ask parents to collect them from the school.

May I take this opportunity to remind you of **the importance of naming clothes and all personal belongings.** It is difficult to return mislaid articles if this is neglected. At the end of each term it is normal practice to donate unnamed property, which has not been claimed, to local charities or the 'pre-loved# uniform sale.

Finally, may I also remind you that, on the very rare occasions when pupils have to bring large sums of money to school, we would ask them to leave it in the school office for safe keeping.

Thank you for your help in all of these matters. I will be pleased to answer any queries you may have.

Yours sincerely,

R. Ross (Deputy Principal)







Dronzo