



## ST MARY'S COLLEGE

Summer 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

In preparation for the new academic year in September, it is timely to write with some general reminders about Directors' expectations regarding uniform and personal appearance. In order to ensure that we make a positive start to the new school year, it is important that we are not distracted by any 'misunderstandings' regarding uniform or appearance. **In the final analysis, decisions regarding whether a student's appearance complies with Directors' requirements, are a matter of judgement for Heads of Year and senior staff.**

The starting point in terms of **uniform requirements for students in Years 7–11** is the detailed information included in the student planner. It may, however be helpful to elaborate on a few points:

- **Skirts** - The planner details that 'Extreme skirt lengths are not allowed' and that skirts should be 'mid grey' & of a 'smart plain' style. In other words, skirts that are too long or too short are not allowed. The acceptable length ranges from **just above the knee** to just below the knee. Furthermore, in the interests of health & safety, skirts should be **neither too tight** or too loose fitting. **Skirts made of 'jersey' or stretchy material are not allowed.** Jumpers must not be tucked into skirts. Furthermore, the new, popular kilt-style skirt is compulsory for all Year 7 from September 2022, is now available to buy in the city centre from Steady School Wear at 16 Savile Street for all students in all year groups.
- **Trousers** – In addition to the guidance in the planner, tight or tapered fashion trousers or especially loose fitting or flared trousers are not allowed. To be clear, **trousers should not be black or of a 'skinny' or a cropped/short** design. Ankles should not be on show. In addition, pockets on the thighs or the lower part of the trouser leg are not allowed. **Trousers made of 'jersey' material are not allowed.** Jumpers must not be tucked into trousers. **Belts** – must be a black or grey colour with a modest buckle.
- **Hair styles** - Our policy details that 'extreme hair styles' are not allowed. As a general guide, examples of "extreme" hair styles might include hair that is dyed an artificial colour; any 'two-tone' colouring/bleaching for example the effect resulting from hair being 'dip dyed'; excessive use of a hair product to encourage hair to stand up; hair that is cut very short or shaved at the sides but longer on the top/in the middle and hair that is combed into any sort of Mohican style; hair that has any sort of pattern or '**parting**' shaved into it. Hair should be an **even length all over. This includes 'mullet' hair styles, regardless of their length.** For Health and Safety reasons hair that covers the face in particular the eyes is not allowed. **In addition, hair accessories and adornments are not allowed.** Scrunchies in school colours are acceptable but must only be worn in hair.
- **Jewellery** – School uniform policy is clear that **only** a wrist watch, and a discreet crucifix are allowed. Smart watches should not be worn.

St Mary's College  
Cranbrook Avenue  
Hull, HU6 7TN

Tel. 01482 851136  
Fax. 01482 804522  
Email. [admin@smchull.org](mailto:admin@smchull.org)

 @SMCHull  
 @SMCHull  
[www.smchull.org](http://www.smchull.org)

CEO  
Mr G Fitzpatrick

Head of School  
Mrs M Stead

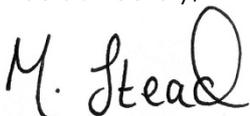


- **Make up – Make up and fake tan are not allowed at St Mary's College.** This includes any form of false or insert eyelashes or procedure to lift the lashes, as well as any modifications or enhancements to eyebrows.
- **Face mask** – when required or through personal choice, students can wear a branded reusable St Mary's College face mask, a medical blue mask, or a plain face mask in school colours (navy, pale blue, grey, black, white). Guidance on mask wearing in schools will be communicated throughout the school year in accordance with Government guidelines.
- **Nails** – In addition to coloured nail varnish not being allowed, false nails or any other nail enhancement are not acceptable.
- **Shoes** – Sensible, full, black low-heeled shoes (and **not anything in a 'boot' style**) should be worn for school. Sandals, plimsolls and high heels constitute a health and safety risk and are therefore not allowed. In addition, shoes should be plain in style and without any metallic decoration or **a different coloured sole** or different to black coloured stitching etc. No brand name labels should be on shoes e.g. Kickers. Leather look trainers cannot be worn.
- **Socks** – must be white, black or grey in colour and an appropriate length i.e. not ankle socks or socks that are so short that they reveal the ankle or lower leg.
- **Mobile phones\* etc** – Please refer to the detailed policy information in planners but, in short, mobile electronic communication devices are not allowed to be seen or used in school. **Phones must be turned off and in the pupils' bags.**  
*\*This also includes any electronic communication devices such as smart watches, iPads, tablets, Fitbits or any device that connects to the internet.*
- **Bags** – School bags should be plain, practical and suitable for carrying text books/exercise books of A4 size & basic equipment for the curriculum. **Fashion bags or handbags are not allowed.** Rucksack style bags are encouraged.
- **Lanyards** – all students must wear a lanyard throughout the school day. Lanyard colours are specific to each year group. Lanyards must be worn complete with a card holder, and the student card. Loss or damage of lanyards will mean a new one must be purchased.
- **Scarves / hats / gloves** – items of winter clothing should be either dark blue or black, and of a plain design. Fashion scarves and hats are not permitted.

Failure to conform to the above school rules can result in pupils being withdrawn from normal lessons until the matter can be resolved. Lesson attendance is clearly essential if students are to make expected progress. I am sure that we would all like to avoid unnecessary confrontation and focus on learning in order to build upon the high levels of attainment already achieved by our students. Indeed, feedback from parents suggests that our relentless and consistent focus on discipline, including enforcing Directors' requirements in relation to uniform, appearance and the use of mobile phones, is a key factor in ensuring high quality learning and ultimately examination results.

If you have any enquiries regarding these matters, please do not hesitate to contact your son's/daughter's Head of Year or Miss Flanagan (Vice Principal).

Yours sincerely,



Mrs M Stead - **Head of School**