



## QUEENS' SCHOOL

*Dare to be Great*

### **Ethos**

Our dress code is designed to be simple and reflective of the modern, outward-looking and ambitious students who study at Queens' School. Since Sixth Formers are old enough to be deciding the direction of their own lives, we believe that they should also have a reasonable amount of personal choice about what they wear and be able to make mature judgments as part of their development into adulthood.

### **Expectations**

Sixth Formers at Queens' are not expected to wear a school uniform and are empowered to make decisions about their identity and how they want to present themselves in a learning environment which contains a range of ages down to 11 years old.

As the eldest students at school and role models to their younger peers, the minimum expectation is that Sixth Formers dress appropriately for the school working environment and look ready to learn, demonstrating the school values at all times.

Sixth Formers are welcome to wear formal professional attire, such as two-piece suits. However, students who want to dress in a style more akin to modern workplaces are equally welcome to do so. We do not wish to prevent individuality and we recognise that in the workplace our students are preparing for has fewer restrictions in terms of dress than for previous generations. We therefore believe it is a fitting privilege to have a reasonable amount of personal choice in the Sixth Form and as a result common aspects of formal dress such as ties, tailored trousers or black and brown shoes are not expected.

However, students also have a responsibility to dress in an expected manner and we have therefore provided some guidance below. The list is not exhaustive and we reserve the right to point out other issues as they arise. **The overriding principle is that it is the judgement of the staff that determines what is suitable or not.**

### **Students must always wear their school lanyard and ID badge.**

To avoid ambiguity, the following short list of items are considered inappropriate:

#### **Footwear**

- Trainers (including Converse, Vans, Nike)
- Boots above ankle-height or steel-toed

#### **Clothing**

- Trousers, skirts and dresses not of a reasonable length
- Shorts
- Cropped tops, skinny strap tops, backless tops
- Hoodies
- Sportswear and tracksuits
- Underwear that is visible
- Beachwear (including sliders/flip flops)
- Fishnet tights, ripped tights, patterned tights
- Jeans, denim coats
- Wording/Slogans that could be considered abusive or offensive

#### **Headwear**

- Caps and hats

#### **Tattoos, piercings and hair dye**

- Large looped or tunnel earrings
- Visible tattoos
- Unnatural hair colours

Some clothing is specified by subjects. For example, open-toed shoes would be considered dangerous in a design and technology workshop. Sixth formers are expected to observe the individual dress codes of subjects, where they exist.

## **Bursary**

No student should be prevented from owning clothing that allows them to feel confident and empowered at school. Financial disadvantage can affect anyone, and so those sixth formers requiring financial support for the purchase of clothing can apply for a bursary via the 16-19 Bursary Fund. The process for receiving support is straightforward to complete and done with the utmost discretion and sensitivity and more detailed information can be found [here](#). Any sixth former should feel free to discuss the bursary with the Director of Sixth Form or Mrs Manning, Student Support Officer.

### ***Process for responding to dress code issues:***

In the first instance a staff member from the Sixth Form Team or Form Tutor team will identify the issue with the dress code and either:

- Ask the student to immediately rectify the issue or, if this cannot be done
- Send the student to the Sixth Form office to arrange for them to be sent home

If a student is unable to get home they will not be permitted to attend lessons and will work from the study centre. A parent/carer will be notified and asked to bring in appropriate clothing to rectify the issue. Once the issue is rectified the student will be able to return to normal lessons.

Students who are sent home will be expected to do so as promptly as possible, and to return to the Sixth Form Office to check the issue is resolved.

If a staff member has concerns about what a Sixth Form student is wearing which cannot be immediately rectified, they will send that student to the Sixth Form Office with a note and the above process will be followed.

Notes will not be given (or accepted from parents/carers) to excuse non-uniform footwear being worn, other than on medical grounds.