

# Breifne College

## School Uniform Policy



Breifne College is very proud of its students and the school uniform which clearly identifies and distinguishes them. Our school uniform is a huge part of our identity as a community of learners. The students of Breifne College wear their uniform with pride and honour. The manner in which students present and conduct themselves whilst in uniform reflects significantly on the public image of Breifne College. Therefore, students wearing our uniform should always be conscious that they represent the entire school community, and as such, their conduct, attitude and manners should reflect our school principles and values (school ethos).

There are many **advantages of school uniforms**, for example:

- A school uniform instils pride, a sense of belonging and a sense of community in our school.
- It makes it much easier for staff and the public to recognise a student belonging to Breifne College and also to recognise others who do not belong on our school campus.
- Wearing the school uniform promotes social inclusion and reduces peer pressure in school.

- It removes the incidence of inappropriate dress in school.
- It helps our students to learn better as it removes a major source of distraction.

Parents and guardians are expected to show their support for Breifne College by fully co-operating with the school in ensuring that all students wear the full school uniform to and from school every day.

Adherence to our Uniform Policy is essential in positive behavioural management.

**The school uniform for First Year students** consists of: Black shoes, Navy trousers, Blue uniform jumper with school crest, sky blue shirts for boys, striped blouse for girls, navy over - fleece with *Breifne College* embroidered in white thread on breast (available for €20 in all stockists). A Breifne College waterproof uniform jacket with school crest (available from 'Uniformity' shop in Cavan at €40).

Full black footwear is essential. There is to be no coloured insignias or emblems on the footwear.

**The school uniform for Second Year to Sixth Year students consists of:** Black shoes, Grey trousers, Blue uniform jumper with school crest, sky blue shirts for boys, striped blouse for girls, navy over - fleece with *Breifne College* embroidered in white thread on breast (available for €20 in all stockists). A Breifne College waterproof uniform jacket with school crest (available from 'Uniformity' shop in Cavan at €40).

Full black footwear is essential. There is to be no coloured insignias or emblems on school footwear.

On days on which students have P.E. students are permitted to wear only school PE uniform top, dark or navy bottoms, (preferably navy). There is to be absolutely no tolerance for any other top hoodie etc. or coloured bottoms. No skin - tight bottoms or leggings are permitted

The P.E. Department will not permit students anything other than the school P.E. uniform to partake in P.E. classes.

### **Uniform Code:**

The school uniform is hugely important in Breifne College and will be inspected every morning at tutor time. Please read the following very carefully. This uniform code will be implemented in the context of our Code of Conduct.

- All students are required to wear the full school uniform (as described in this document) to, from and during school every day. This includes the correct school footwear, official school jacket and official school tie.
- Students should always be aware that they represent our school when wearing the school uniform (even outside of normal school hours). Any poor conduct whilst wearing our school uniform has a potential impact on the image of Breifne College and may result in disciplinary consequences (in accordance with our Code of Conduct).
- It is expected that the uniform is kept clean and maintained to the highest standards and that students wear it with pride.
- Students should also maintain high standards of personal hygiene at all times.
- All students are required to wear the full school uniform when representing the school on school trips/activities. Any student who does not present in the appropriate uniform will not be permitted to represent the school or go on the school trip/outing.
- On occasion, the P.E. uniform may be permitted for sporting outings or different events e.g. Active Week, HSE Vaccinations...etc. Parents will be informed in advance when this is deemed necessary. Once again, students who are not dressed in the appropriate school P.E. uniform will not be permitted to travel to matches.

- School skirts must be worn at least 2 inches below the knee. Skirts are not permitted to be rolled up.
- Shoes must be kept clean and polished.
- No jacket other than the official school jackets may be worn at any time. *Non uniform jackets, hoodies or tops are not permitted on school premises.* Non-uniform items of clothing will be confiscated, and parents/guardians will be contacted to arrange a meeting in order to return the confiscated item.
- School fleeces and jackets may be worn inside the school building.
- Fake tan and Make-up (of any description) is not allowed. Students will be given a cleansing wipe and instructed to remove make-up if they wear it to school.
- Student hairstyles must be kept clean, neat and discreet. *Hair colours must be within the natural range of hair colours.* Shaved heads are not allowed. Designs shaved into the hair are not allowed. No distracting or outlandish hairstyles will be accepted under any circumstances. Only plain hairbands may be worn. The school reserves the right to decide whether a particular hairstyle is acceptable or not.
- Students are not allowed to wear coloured nail varnish, acrylic nails, gel overlays, Shellac or fake nails.
- Visible tattoos and facial piercings (of any kind) are not allowed.
- False eyelashes are not allowed.
- The wearing of jewellery for all students is limited to a wristwatch, a small ring on one hand, and a small pair of stud earrings. **Only one stud per ear is permitted.** Health and safety regulations mean that jewellery is prohibited in certain lessons e.g. Home Economics, Material Technology Wood, P.E., etc. as it constitutes a risk. Students should not wear jewellery on days when they have these subjects as there is no facility in the school for staff to 'mind' jewellery.

- A plain navy scarf and gloves may be worn during cold weather but must be removed once inside the school building.
- It is the responsibility of each parent/guardian to ensure that each item of their son/daughter's uniform is labelled clearly with their name. A waterproof marker should be used.
- Students are responsible for their own property.

**Important Notes:**

1. It is imperative that all students comply fully with our uniform code. On the occurrence of an isolated incidence where a student is unable to wear their correct uniform, parents/guardians should write an explanatory note in the notes section of the student's school journal. The student should present this note to their tutor before morning assembly. In the case where the school has a stock of the missing item of uniform, the student will be loaned the item for the day.

2. The school will send a maximum of 2 letters to parents/guardians to inform them if their son/daughter is not complying fully with the uniform code. This gives parents/guardians an opportunity to address the issue. *Persistent infraction of the uniform code will result in the parent/guardian being contacted to come and take the student home until they comply fully.*

3. Parents/guardians should contact the school if they are experiencing difficulty in acquiring the uniform.

**Footnote due to Covid 19.**

Please note that during these most unusual and unprecedented times of the Covid 19 pandemic, students are unable to change in the P.E. changing rooms before and after P.E.

As a result, students who have P.E. on a particular day are permitted to wear the school P.E. uniform to school on that day.

It must be a full Breifne College P.E. uniform, including a Breifne College half zip top with school crest, plain, (no stripes) dark, (preferably navy) bottoms and dark runners. Skin - tight leggings or bottoms are not permitted. Shorts can be worn under the bottoms but alone they can be *only* worn during P.E. class.

Students who fail to comply will not be allowed to participate in P.E. class and will wear their normal uniform to school on that day.

This arrangement will only be in operation whilst the changing rooms are out of use.

Signed:

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Mr. John Crotty Principal, Breifne College

Mr. Sean Fagan, Chairperson of B.O.M.

*We have read and understand the Breifne College Uniform Code.*

*We will follow all of the above conditions and pledge to comply with the Uniform Code*

Student signature .....

Parent/Guardian signature .....