

Principles of the Dress Code

We want pupils to take pride in their appearance, and we believe that uniform can help portray a positive student image and a shared culture around school. We believe that students should portray a professional image and that they should be identifiable by their appearance, however we also recognise that strict traditional uniform can present a barrier to some learners, particularly in a college environment, and that pupils and parents also tell us that they prefer a more relaxed approach to school uniform. South Devon High School has developed an agreed approach to uniform which offers a choice of school uniform for the upper body and guidelines for the lower body, which we encourage all, pupils to adhere to in and out of the classroom environment.

Uniform Guidelines

Upper body:

- Polo shirt (This is the minimum requirement)
- Hoodie, Jumper or Cardigan

Lower Body

- There are no prescribed trousers or skirts, however clothing must be 'appropriate', for example skirts must not be shorter than knee length.
- Footwear can include trainers or shoes and we do not specify on a colour. We would like students to avoid open toed footwear or flip flops due to health and safety risk

Additional Guidance:

- Pupils should appear clean, tidy and smart and portray a professional image and instil public confidence at all times.
- South Devon High School pupils are expected to wear uniform at all times in lessons across college
- Students do not have to have their uniform on show when on break and are able to wear their own clothes over their polo shirt. This can include jumpers, hoodies or coats as long as they do not display offensive writing or images
- Pupils should carry their photographic ID badge at all times.
- Excessive exposure of flesh is to be avoided.
- In the event of dispute, it will remain the School's decision on the appropriateness of non-prescribed clothing.

The following items are not permitted as part of pupils' uniform:

- Leggings on their own (permitted with shorts/skirts)
- Mini-skirts or similar

- Excessive jewellery, for example that which could pose a health or safety risk, which pupils will be asked to remove. South Devon High School is not responsible for any loss of jewellery worn to school, or for any injury sustained by a pupil caused by the wearing of jewellery.

For Activity and Wellbeing (PE) sessions there will be no prescribed uniform. This is designed to make students feel more comfortable in the sessions. Clothing should be appropriate for the activity and not pose a health or safety risk. Jeans will not be permitted and appropriate footwear must be worn, for example trainers or plimsolls.

Pupils' Responsibility

It is the pupil's responsibility to:

- Adhere to the standards of dress and personal appearance at all times.
- Comply with this and any other associated policies for South Devon High School.
- Maintain a high level of personal hygiene and appearance at all times.
- Promote compliance with these guidelines across all pupils.

Pupils who do not adhere to the uniform guidelines will be asked to meet the recommendations as soon as practicably possible. In extreme or repeated circumstances this may include instructing the pupil to return home and re-present for school in more appropriate clothing. Persistent failure to comply with the uniform guidelines will be noted on a pupil's contact log, and this will be discussed with parents. Persistent offences may lead to disciplinary action, using the Positive Intervention and Disciplinary procedure.