

Uniform Policy

September 2025

Our School Uniform: Promoting Identity, Equity and Excellence

Uniform plays a vital role in promoting and upholding our school ethos of *“Work hard, be loving and do the right thing.”* It sets a purposeful tone for learning, fosters pride, and strengthens the sense of belonging within our Catholic school community.

We work closely with our uniform supplier to review the cost of uniform annually, ensuring it remains reasonable and offers the best possible value for money for families. We understand that quality and durability are as important as affordability. High-quality garments not only represent better value over time, but are also more sustainable and environmentally responsible.

Branded Items and Government Guidance

In accordance with the Department for Education’s statutory guidance, from September 2026 all schools will be legally required to limit compulsory branded items to a maximum of four. To support affordability and allow a smooth transition, we will implement this change from September 2025.

Our four compulsory branded items are:

- The **school tie**
- The **blazer with school badge**
- The **school skirt or trousers with logo**
- The **PE polo shirt**

These have been carefully selected to preserve our school’s identity while complying with the legal requirement. Additional branded items are available but are not compulsory.

Uniform Supplier

For specific uniform items — including the tie, school badge, blazer (with badge), trousers, skirt, PE shorts and PE polo shirt— the school has a designated supplier, Big Fish. Purchasing from our approved supplier is strongly recommended to ensure items meet the correct specification.

Big Fish offers:

- Online ordering via: <https://www.bigfishschoolwear.co.uk/school/login>
 - Username: **Becket**
 - Password: **Pelican6**
- Uniform fitting events held in school during the summer term — details will be shared with parents in advance
- Free delivery to school during term time, or home delivery via DPD (with a delivery charge)
- Tailored support for families requiring non-standard sizes

The school follows a competitive procurement process, with the contract re-tendered at least every five years. This ensures the best value for families, consistent product availability throughout the year, and affordability support for those who need it.

Support for Families

We are committed to making school uniform accessible to all. The school provides additional support to eligible families and maintains a regular supply of high-quality second-hand uniform, available for any parent who wishes to make use of it. All pre-worn items are checked to ensure they meet our standards.

Parents wishing to access second-hand uniform or enquire about financial support should contact their child’s **Progress Leader** in the first instance.

Progress Leaders (September 2025 – July 2026)

Year 7 – Mr Gill l.gill@becketonline.co.uk

Year 8 – Mr Ward h.ward@becketonline.co.uk

Year 9 – Mrs Harlow l.harlow@becketonline.co.uk

Year 10 – Miss Johns e.johns@becketonline.co.uk

Year 11 – Mrs Patterson

j.paterson@becketonline.co.uk

The Becket School Uniform

<i>Item</i>	<i>Picture</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Notes and Exclusions</i>
Compulsory branded items			
Tie		School tie.	Tied in a single knot, large end of the tie showing, with 6 or more stripes on display.
Blazer		Black Blazer.	The school blazer must be worn at all times inside the school building and may only be removed with the permission of a member of staff. Sleeves should remain worn down and not rolled up. The blazer must display both the school badge and the form badge on the breast pocket. Blazers can be purchased directly from Big Fish, with the school badge already embroidered, or alternatively, a plain black blazer may be purchased from another supplier, provided the official school badge is sewn onto the pocket. The only other badges permitted on the blazer are those awarded by the school, such as achievement or commendation badges. 
Skirt/Trouser		Branded school skirt/Branded school trouser	Belts must not be worn with school skirts, and skirts must not be rolled up. Students in Year 9 and above are required to wear the senior-length skirt, unless a student is considered petite, in which case an alternative may be agreed with the school. Trousers must be worn securely at the waist, and undergarments must not be visible above the waistband under any circumstances. A plain black belt, with a plain simple buckle can be worn.

Compulsory non-branded items and uniform expectations

Shirt		White traditional school shirt with formal collar. Long or short sleeves.	Three-quarter length sleeves and tailored shirts are not permitted. Students must wear standard, full-length sleeved shirts (long sleeved or short sleeved). The top button must be fastened at all times, and shirts must be tucked into skirts or trousers at all times, including during break and lunch periods.
Lanyard		Lanyard to be always worn while on the school premises	Students are required to visibly wear their identity cards at all times, using the correct colour lanyard that corresponds to their year group. Each student will be issued one lanyard and ID card at the start of the academic year. If a lanyard or ID card is lost or damaged, it is the responsibility of the student and their family to arrange for its replacement.
Jumper		Plain mid grey. V neck. Long sleeves.	Jumpers are not to be worn in the summer term. Cardigans are not permitted. Only school-approved jumpers may be worn, and they must not be tucked into skirts or trousers or altered in any way, including being tied in a knot at the back. Jumpers must always be worn with the blazer, and the tie must remain clearly visible underneath. Sweater-style or casual jumpers are not allowed under any circumstances.
Socks		Plain black and grey ankle socks only.	White socks are not permitted. Socks must cover the ankle—no trainer socks, pop socks, or knee-high/long socks are allowed. Socks should be plain, without frills, extra designs, or logos. Additionally, socks must not be worn over tights.
Tights		Plain black or grey colour.	Plain black tights with no patterns on them. Tights should not be see through and so should be 60+ denier.
Shoes		Black, traditional school shoes. Preferably with a strap, laces or buckle.	Boots are not permitted. Slip-on shoes may only be worn if they fully cover the top of the foot and offer adequate protection. Open-toe shoes are not allowed under any circumstances. Trainers—whether black or coloured—are not acceptable, including those with sports logos or athletic-style laces, as these will be classified as trainers. Students wearing inappropriate footwear will be asked to wear school-provided shoes

Coat		Plain and black, no patterns.	Hoodies are not part of the school uniform and must not be worn on school premises. Any hoodie seen on site will be confiscated. Students may wear a black coat with a small, discreet logo. However, the following items are not permitted: • Fur or faux fur coats and gilets • Leather jackets • Denim jackets All outerwear should be appropriate for a school environment and in keeping with our uniform standards.
Scarf, hat, gloves		Black and plain.	Only black scarves are permitted—no patterns. Hats with logos or baseball caps are not allowed
Earrings		One small discreet silver or gold spherical stud in each earlobe.	Only small, spherical stud earrings are permitted—no other shapes or designs are allowed. Studs must be plain, with no stones or embellishments. Facial, tongue, and body piercings are strictly prohibited. This includes clear or retainer studs, which are not allowed under any circumstances.
Hair bobbles/ Alice bands		To be black and discreet.	
School bags		A black rucksack or other school bag of appropriate size for school.	Students must bring a practical bag that is large enough to carry all necessary equipment, including books, folders, and PE kit where required. While handbag-style bags are permitted, they must be suitably sized and practical for daily school use. The preferred and most suitable option is a rucksack, as it best supports organisation and comfort. The following are not allowed: • Small fashion rucksacks/handbags • Paper shopping bags • Plastic carrier bags Bags may have a small, discreet logo.

Hair styles		Hairstyles must be smart and practical. Level 1 shaving is allowed on the sides of the head, but the hair on top must be longer and graduated. Braids are welcome, including Box, Goddess, Dutch, French, and Fulani braids. One bead, matching the student's hair colour, may be worn at the end of each braid. Conventional wigs and weaves are permitted	The following are not permitted: • Tram lines or patterns shaved into the hair • Shaving the entire head to a zero or level 1 (buzz cuts) • Undercuts • Hair that is dyed to look unnatural, including unnatural colours, highlights, or braids with varying colours • Woven strands of any colour in braids • Hair extensions that are not a natural hair colour • Hair jewellery Long hair must be tied back during any lessons where it could pose a health and safety risk (e.g. PE, Science, DT). All hairstyles must be appropriate for a school setting and reflect our high standards of presentation.
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Lanyards

While students are required to wear their school-issued lanyard each day for safeguarding and identification purposes, it is important to note that lanyards are not classified as one of the four branded uniform items. This is because lanyards serve a functional role rather than forming part of the core uniform that reflects the school's visual identity. The four branded items—[Blazer, tie, skirt/trouser, PE polo]—are specifically designed to promote a sense of belonging, pride, and consistency in appearance. In contrast, the lanyard is a practical tool for health and safety, ensuring all students can be easily identified on-site.

Jumpers

To maintain high standards and consistency, **school jumpers are not permitted during the summer term.**

This decision is based on four key reasons:

1. Uniform Standards & Identity

The blazer is one of our four permitted branded items and is a visible symbol of school pride and high expectations. Increasingly, students are wearing only the jumper, which undermines the uniform's purpose and consistency.

2. Practicality in Warm Weather

Blazers can be easily removed, making them more suitable for warmer weather. Jumpers are harder to manage and can cause discomfort.

3. Clear Expectations

Removing the jumper option simplifies uniform expectations for students, staff, and parents, reducing confusion and ensuring consistency.

4. Affordability & Purpose

Our uniform is designed to be affordable and purposeful. By clearly defining when each item is worn, we ensure it serves a specific role.

Uniform Adjustments During Extreme Weather

The school is committed to ensuring students are safe, comfortable, and able to learn effectively in all conditions. During periods of **extreme weather**, temporary adjustments may be made to uniform expectations while maintaining our high standards of presentation.

Hot Weather Adjustments

In periods of unusually hot weather, the following measures may be introduced:

- **Blazers may be removed** throughout the day, including in lessons and at social times.
- **Top buttons and ties** may be relaxed, particularly during the hottest parts of the day.
- In the event of **sustained or extreme heat**, students may be permitted to wear their **PE kit** instead of the usual uniform. This will only apply when authorised by the school.

Parents and students will always be informed of any temporary changes in advance through our usual communication channels.

Cold or Wet Weather Adjustments

In cold or adverse weather conditions, students may:

- Wear **appropriate outdoor coats** (but not in place of the school blazer).
- Use **scarves, gloves, and hats** while outdoors (to be removed indoors).

All weather-related adjustments will be decided by the senior leadership team and clearly communicated to both students and parents ahead of implementation

The following items are not permitted in school:

- Make-up
- Fake eyelashes
- Nail varnish
- False nails
- Tattoos
- Jewellery (including rings, necklaces, bracelets, and hair jewellery)
- Electrical devices (including mobile phones, smartwatches, smart devices, cameras, and iPods)
- Aerosols
- Laser pens
- Baseball caps
- Hoodies
- Hairstyles or colours that draw undue attention
- Black "trainer-style" shoes from sports brands (e.g. Nike, Adidas, Puma, Lonsdale, Converse, Vans, etc.)

These items will either be confiscated or/and asked to be removed. They will be dealt with in line with the School Behaviour Policy.

Aerosols, laser pens, all electrical items such as ipods, mobile phones, smart devices, cameras, smart watches and items which interfere with the smooth running of the school day are all banned items and must be left at home. You should be aware that these items may be searched for and if found will be confiscated. A confiscated item will be dealt with in accordance with the School Behaviour Policy.

Naming of pupil property is important for clear identification if it is misplaced or lost. In exceptional circumstances, where students are unable to wear correct school dress, parents are asked to provide a note for the form tutor to consider.

The school reserves the right to make the final decision on what is considered appropriate as part of the school uniform. Please note that not every eventuality may be covered in this policy, as styles and fashions evolve.

Where ambiguity arises, the school's judgement will be final.

PE Uniform and kit requirements

Compulsory branded item		
POLO SHIRT (UNISEX) Becket blue polo shirt with school logo		
		
Compulsory items (branded/non-branded)		
SHORTS FOR BOYS AND GIRLS (UNISEX) Becket blue shorts with school logo or plain navy-blue sports shorts with no logo .	Socks Plain Navy blue long sports socks	TRAINER AND SHINPADS Sports Trainers and Shin pads when participating in football and hockey.
 Or		
Highly Recommended		
FOOTBALL BOOTS WITH MOULDED STUDS OR BLADES Used for Rugby, Football and Cross country. If there is difficulty with the provision of these, please bring in a note from home.	BECKET HOODIE (UNISEX) Becket Blue Hoodie with logo	
		

Optional items	
NAVY BECKET TRACK PANTS (UNISEX) (Can be replaced by plain Navy joggers)	NAVY BECKET LEGINS (These are being currently phased out and can be replaced by plain Navy leggings NO BLACK LEGGINS)
	

Students are expected to arrive at all PE lessons with the full, appropriate kit, ensuring a positive and safe learning environment for all.

All students must bring their PE kit to every lesson, including those who are injured or temporarily unable to participate in physical activity. These students must also provide a written note explaining their condition and will be expected to engage in the lesson as fully as possible within their limitations. This may include roles such as coaching, refereeing, or officiating.

These expectations are clearly communicated to all students upon joining the school and are reinforced each September.

Jewellery in PE lessons is strictly prohibited. Students must remove all earrings before participating. Piercings should be planned for the summer holidays to allow adequate healing time. Failure to remove earrings will result in the student being withdrawn from the lesson and placed in the Reflection Centre.

Compliance

The school reserves the right to take disciplinary action if a student's uniform or appearance does not comply with the requirements set out in this policy.