



## WEST GRANTHAM

Church of England Secondary Academy

### THE IMPORTANCE OF A SCHOOL UNIFORM

#### **Sense of pride in your school**

A uniform is central to schools building a sense of community among students, staff and parents as well as the local community. We find that students are proud to represent their school in public through their clothes, and those students attending schools without a distinctive uniform saw a badged blazer as a way to improve their school's reputation.

#### **Improves behaviour**

When children wear a uniform, as well as gaining a sense of pride, we find that wearing a uniform improves discipline and concentration.

Wearing a uniform sets a boundary by placing a pupil in a 'working environment' mindset and helps them separate their home and school life. School uniform places children on a level playing field, reducing the pressure to wear the latest fashionable brands.

While non-uniform days may be exciting, research has found that pupils view them as 'non-work' days, and teachers report a drop in behavior standards as a result.

#### **Wellbeing**

School uniform plays a key role in promoting pride, self-confidence, and a feeling of belonging within the student body. These factors contribute to students' wellbeing, removing the additional pressures of deciding what to wear and the added stress of meeting the expectations of their peers. Uniform removes the points of difference between students, thus unifying the student body and providing a greater focus on academic work.

#### **Sustainable option**

With climate change, sustainability and fast fashion taking centre stage in the media, it is important that schools consider long lasting clothing options. The removal of school specific uniform would likely lead to an increase in parents purchasing multiple garments which will need to be replaced more frequently. Good quality school uniform is designed to stand the test of time – as well as the daily trials of playground activities – and therefore provide better value for money.

#### **What does a uniform include?**

Uniform is more than just clothes. It also applies to jewelry, nails, hairstyles and footwear. All of these are equally important, and the school's guidelines can be found on the school website and in all student planners.

WEST GRANTHAM CHURCH OF ENGLAND SECONDARY ACADEMY

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