

POLICY TITLE: Student Uniform and Equipment (Years 7-11)

STATUS: Statutory

DATE OF REVIEW: September 2025



Fundamentally, a school uniform creates a sense of equality: from the outset every student is dressed the same, encouraging a sense of belonging and creating a strong identity for the school in the community. Therefore, students at The Latimer Arts College should wear their uniform with pride and not seek to introduce variations, nor should this be supported or encouraged by parents and carers. Where there are breaches of the school uniform procedures, sanctions, in line with Latimer's Behaviour for Learning Policy, will be applied accordingly. This may mean that students are asked to borrow uniform, are sent home to get changed or placed in the internal suspension room until resolved.

Not all items of clothing branded by shops as 'schoolwear' will meet our criteria.

Main Uniform

Latimer blazer: Compulsory branded item to be worn at all times but may be removed in lessons and at lunchtime. During extended periods of hot weather, the Principal will declare 'Summer uniform' during which time blazers are not required.

White school shirt: Compulsory non-branded item. Shirts must be worn tucked in and must be conventional school shirts and not fashion blouses.

Latimer tie: Compulsory branded item to be worn at all times (with the exception of practical lessons). Each of our four Houses has a different colour tie. Students will be notified of their house allocation prior to starting in September.

Latimer jumper: Optional branded item (non Latimer jumpers are not allowed). This should not be worn instead of a blazer.

Plain black full-length school trousers or plain black school knee length skirt: Non-branded item. Trousers must be full length, not cropped, leggings (lycra material with no pockets or fastenings) and jeans are not permitted. If students wish to wear skirts there are two approved styles as sold by Karlsports, please note that lycra, jersey or tube skirts are not acceptable.

Plain black footwear: Non-branded item. Footwear must be completely black, but may be shoes or trainers. No boots or canvas shoes. If students choose to wear trainers to school these cannot be worn for PE.

PE and Dance Uniform

Students are able to wear PE kit to and from school if they have a lesson P1 or P5, it is important that they are not wearing non-uniform items on top of the PE uniform. Coats, blazers or a plain black top (not hooded) are acceptable.

PE Basic Kit

- Latimer branded shorts* or plain black shorts or plain black cycling shorts (mid-thigh or knee length)
- PE shirt with school badge* **This is the only compulsory branded item**
- Red socks for football/rugby* and/or Trainer socks for other sports (students need a change of socks)

- Plain black/Latimer branded leggings* or plain black tracksuit bottoms
- Training top* / rugby shirt* or black base layer/zip up top or black jumper (for health and safety reasons **hoods are not permitted**)

*These items are all available from Karlsports.

Acceptable alternatives to the items available at Karlsports are listed below:

Girls Shorts: We recommend shorts of mid-thigh or longer (13 cm to 20 cm in length) not the 8 cm version. Please ensure that the shorts are an appropriate length, taking into account growth during the year. Affordable options can be found at supermarkets and various online retailers, but it's important to check the length before purchasing.

Outerwear: The training top currently available from Karlsports was chosen by students last year and remains a popular, reasonably priced option. Other black zip-up jackets or sweatshirts **without hoods** and with minimal logos are also acceptable.

PE Footwear

Trainers of any colour are permitted for PE. **Please note students must have a separate pair of PE trainers**, school trainers (which must be plain black) cannot be worn for PE.

Ideally students should have 'blades' or 'astro-trainers' for the 4G. Metal studs are not permitted



Personal Protective Equipment

We **strongly advise** that the following Personal Protective Equipment is worn by students when undertaking the following sports in their PE lessons, as semi-competitive matches, and therefore contact, may take place:

- **Football, Hockey and Futsal:** Shin pads
- **Rugby and Hockey:** Mouth guard

We would recommend that parents and carers ensure that any PPE that is purchased meets the British Standards Institute (BSI) and European (EN) standards.

Dance Kit

PE kit can be worn for dance in Years 7 and 8 OR Plain black leggings/ joggers and t-shirt.

GCSE Dance students should wear the Latimer dance T shirt, plain T-shirt or Latimer PE top. This should be worn with black jogging bottoms, leggings or dance trousers. An optional Dance sweatshirt is also available and can be worn for Dance and/or PE.

If shorts are worn, they must be mid-thigh or knee length as per PE uniform.

Bare feet or appropriate dance shoes can be worn.

Additional Uniform Procedures

During extreme weather conditions, moderations to the uniform procedures may be made by the Principal. For example, students may be permitted to wear alternative footwear if there are icy conditions or permitted to remove ties and blazers if the weather is extremely hot. Parents/carers will be notified, where relevant, on a day to day basis, through the use of School Gateway, should this be the case.

Coats: Should students wish to wear an outdoor jacket or coat to school they should be of a plain colour, without embellishments or logos. Casual jackets such as denim, leather or hooded jumpers are not permitted.

Jewellery: Students are permitted to wear up to two studs in each earlobe and a watch. No other body piercings, jewellery or charity bands are permitted, nor are tapers or bars. Clear studs should not be used to 'conceal' piercings.

No jewellery is to be worn in Dance and PE lessons for safety reasons.

Make-up: We discourage the wearing of make-up to school but if worn it should appear subtle and natural.

Nails: Must be natural for health and safety reasons. No acrylics or BIAB nails are allowed. Nail varnish of any colour is not permitted.

Hair: Hair must be cut in a formal style suitable for school. Hair colour should look natural. Unnatural colours such as pink and green etc. are not permitted. Closely shaved hair, excessively spiked hair, patterns, tramlines and designs in hair are not permitted. Long hair must be tied back for Dance and PE lessons and when undertaking practical work in Design Technology and Science and Food, therefore a hairband should be brought to school each day.

Valuables: Personal property brought into the school is done so at the owner's risk. We do encourage our students to respect each other's property and we do take reasonable steps to ensure the safety of such items. However, if property become lost or damaged, we cannot accept liability for this.

Uniform Suppliers

Latimer blazers, ties and optional jumpers should be purchased from the school uniform supplier: **KarlSports Clothing**. PE kit is also available to order from Karl Sports Clothing: www.ksschoolwear.co.uk. They are located at Unit 7 (just behind B&Q), Trafalgar Road, Kettering, Northants, NN16 8DB. Tel: 01536 601731. School has a 'swap shop' arrangement in place, whereby blazers that are now too small can be swapped for a second-hand larger size (sizes permitting). We encourage all parents/carers to participate in this money saving system, details of which can be obtained on the school website.

Ready to Learn: Equipment

If students are punctual, organised and properly equipped, lessons can start on time and disruption free learning can be maintained. We ask that you support your child to ensure that they are ready to learn.

Students will be issued with all books and folders that they need by the relevant subject areas. In addition to this we do ask parents/carers to provide:

- ✓ Pencil case
- ✓ Black pens
- ✓ Red pens – for self-marking, peer assessment and closing the gap
- ✓ Pencils, eraser and a **clear** ruler (as this supports with the accurate reading of graphs and charts)
- ✓ Colouring pencils (optional)
- ✓ A highlighter pen
- ✓ Protractor and compass
- ✓ Calculator: we recommended the **Casio FX83 calculator**
- ✓ A reading book will be provided from the library

It is essential that students have a **suitable school bag** in which to carry their books and equipment for the day, including their PE/Dance kit when needed.

Essential equipment will be available for purchase from the canteen from 8:15am. Please note that any

items bought will be charged directly to your ParentMail account. We strongly encourage students to take advantage of this opportunity to ensure they are fully prepared for the day.

To maintain high standards, students who are not ready to learn by being properly equipped may be placed in a detention.