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

STATUS: Statutory

DATE OF REVIEW: September 2026

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 lent uniform for the day, sent home to get changed or placed in the internal suspension room.

Be aware that not all items of clothing branded by shops as 'schoolwear' will meet our criteria so please check the following details, which apply to all students in Years 7-11.

All students in Years 7-11 who attend The Latimer Arts College should adhere to the following uniform procedures:

Latimer jumper: Compulsory branded item to be worn at all times but may be removed in lessons and at lunchtime.

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.

Plain black school trousers or a plain black school knee length skirt: Trousers must be full length, not cropped. Leggings (lycra material with no 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 fully 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 the same pair that is worn for PE.

Summer uniform: Plain black shorts can be worn in Term 6 only but these must be the ones available through Karlsports our uniform supplier.

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 are acceptable.

PE Basic Kit

Compulsory: All students need shorts and leggings or tracksuit bottoms (winter/outdoor) and a branded PE shirt, and a change of socks and trainers specifically for PE.

- PE shirt with school badge*
- Base layer / plain black jumper (no logo or hood) / training top* / rugby shirt*
- Black and white Latimer shorts* or plain black shorts (these must be mid-thigh or longer)
- Plain black or branded sports leggings* or tracksuit bottoms
- Red football socks for football/rugby*
- Trainer socks for other sports (students must have a change of socks)

*These items are available from Karlsports.

Students should not be wearing hoodies (for health and safety reasons).

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

Girls Shorts: *We recommend shorts of mid-thigh or longer (inner leg measurement of 13 cm or longer). 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 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 from their school trainers. School trainers (which must be plain black) cannot be worn for PE.

4G Pitch: Trainers are permitted. Metal studs are not permitted.
Ideally students should have ‘blades’ or ‘astro-trainers’ for this surface (optional)

Sports Hall: It is preferable for students to have an 'indoor' pair of trainers with non-marking soles. In the event that a student has only one pair of trainers it is essential they are cleaned properly before indoor use. Students will not be permitted to wear trainers that they have been wearing to play on the tennis courts or field at break or lunchtime if the soles are not clean.

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

Please note that many students undertake informal sporting activities at break and lunchtime, such as football. The strong advice above applies at these times as well, and shin guards are recommended for football.

In line with this guidance, it is your **parental responsibility** to provide it. Whilst we may have a small supply of spare kit for any given sport, we cannot guarantee its availability each lesson.

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 longer 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 jumpers if the weather is extremely hot. Parents/carers will be notified, where relevant, on a day to day basis, through the Compass App, should this be the case.

Coats: Students should wear a coat to school during the Autumn and Winter months. 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, a watch and a “medical alert” bracelet or necklace. No other body piercings or jewellery are allowed.

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

Make-up/False Lashes: We discourage the wearing of make-up to school but if worn it should appear subtle and natural. We also do not allow false eyelashes due to health and safety guidance for practical lessons.

Nails: Nails should be natural, no acrylics or BIAB, and no varnish is permitted due to food hygiene rules.

Hair: Hair must be cut in a style suitable for school. Hair colour should look natural. Unnatural colours such as pink, blue and green 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.

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 jumpers, ties and PE kit, as well as optional items such as skirts should be purchased from the school uniform supplier: **Karlsports Clothing.** www.ksschoolwear.co.uk. They are located at Unit 7 (just behind B&Q), Trafalgar Road, Kettering, Northants, NN16 8DB. Tel: 01536 601731.

Ready to Learn: Equipment

If students are punctual, organised and properly equipped, lessons can start on time, and a fast pace of learning can be maintained, with no disruption to learning. We ask that you support your child to be 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 and peer assessment
- Pencils, eraser, sharpener and a **clear** ruler (as this supports with the accurate reading of graphs and charts)
- A highlighter pen
- Calculator: we recommended the **Casio FX83 calculator**
- A reading book (provided from the library or home)
- Colouring pencils (optional)
- Protractor and compass (optional)

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

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 parent account. We strongly encourage students to take advantage of this opportunity to ensure they are fully prepared for the day.