



Castle Rushen High School

Uniform Policy

This policy has links to the following CRHS policies and should be read in conjunction with:

Inclusion policy
Behaviour policy

Effective From:	September 2026			
LT Responsible for review:	Keith Winstanley			
Policy communicated to stakeholders via:	Email	INSET	Staff Briefing	Other
				X

Contents

1	Purpose of Policy	2
2	Rationale	2
3	Aims	2
4	Consultation	2
5	Uniform for Pupils in Years 7 – 11	2
6	Procedures in terms of exemptions and non-compliance	4
7	KS5 students	4
8	Staff	4
9	Cost to Parents	4
	Appendix 1 – Consultation Results	5
	Appendix 2 - Games/P.E. Kit	6
	Appendix 3 – CRHS Sixth form Dress Code	7

1 Purpose of Policy

This policy aims to be a clear and equitable set of standards for students in relation to wearing of school uniform.

Since the 2020/21 COVID lockdowns and the interrupted academic calendar the students' interpretation of our uniform policy has become less focussed, this new policy aims to address this issue.

The policy has been adopted by the school's governing body as a reasonable means to achieve a legitimate aim; a coherent school uniform which applies to our students.

2 Rationale

There are recognised benefits in having a school uniform, as a uniform can: instil pride being part of the school; support positive behaviour and discipline; contribute towards the inclusive ethos of a school; help to ensure pupils of all races and backgrounds feel welcome; protect children from social pressures to dress in a particular way; nurture cohesion; and promote good relations between different group of pupils.

In addition, the CRHS site is open and available to the community outside of school hours, our uniform helps with Safeguarding in that it offers a visual check that young person(s) wearing it legitimately belong in school on any day.

3 Aims

Our core business of teaching and learning needs to be conducted in an environment free from unnecessary distractions or disruptions. We feel that uniform benefits our day-to-day learning operations and that wearing it reduces bullying and eliminates peer pressure. It also contributes to a sense of community, safety, and cohesion within the school.

4 Consultation

We conducted a stakeholder consultation exercise on school uniform; the responses confirmed that most respondents are in favour of the school having a uniform. A public consultation on secondary school uniform also supported the continuation of uniforms across the island's schools at a cost-effective level.

5 Uniform for Pupils in Years 7 – 11

The CRHS 'Capsule'

From September 2026, Castle Rushen High School is adopting a 'Capsule Wardrobe' approach to uniform. This model is designed to maintain high standards and a cohesive school identity while offering students greater choice and comfort.

Every student is required to wear items from **The Core**, plus their choice of **Lower** and **Layer**.

On PE days, students are permitted to wear their PE kit for the full day.

1. The Core (Mandatory for All)

Shirt: Plain light blue, stiff-collared formal shirt or blouse (long or short sleeve). This must be buttoned to the neck and tucked in.

Tie: The School Tie must be worn at all times.

Footwear: All-black footwear (leather shoes or black trainers).

2. The Layers (Choose at least one)

Students may choose the option that they find most comfortable. All items must be plain navy blue.

- **Option A:** Navy School Blazer (optional CRHS logo).
- **Option B:** Navy Jumper V Neck, round neck, or ¼ zip. No hoods, no logos, no cable knits or oversized fits).
- **Option C:** Navy Cardigan (No cable knits or oversized fits).
- **Option D (Year 11 Only):** Official CRHS Leavers' Hoody.

3. The Lowers (Choose one)

All lower garments must be black, grey, or navy blue.

- **Option A: Formal Trousers.**
Definition: Must be a formal school style, (straight, flared, bootleg).
Not Permitted: Leggings, jeans, denim, canvas, joggers, tracksuit bottoms.
- **Option B: School Skirt.**
Definition: Must be of an appropriate length for a learning environment (towards the knee).
Note: Must be worn with plain black/grey socks or tights.
Not Permitted: Short and tight skirts.
- **Option C: Formal School Shorts.**
Definition: Knee-length, smart shorts.
Not Permitted: Lycra, cargo pockets, sports shorts, jersey material, or hot-pants style.

General Appearance:

Coats: Outdoor coats and hoodies may be worn to and from school but must be removed in classrooms.

Hair & Jewellery: Hairstyles, hair colour, and jewellery will generally only be judged in terms of health and safety concerns. However, the school reserves the right to ask students to remove items that are deemed excessive or distracting to learning.

4. Situational Adjustments & Exceptions

Physical Education & Sport:

The 'Capsule' uniform does not apply during PE and Games lessons; students must wear the designated PE kit (see separate Kit List). Similarly, when representing the school in inter-school sports fixtures or events, students are required to wear the appropriate team kit as directed by the PE staff.

Extreme Weather Protocol:

The school prioritises student welfare and learning conditions over rigid adherence to uniform during temperature extremes.

Cold Weather: While outdoor coats and hoodies must generally be removed in classrooms, teaching staff have the discretion to allow students to keep these layers on during periods of extreme cold or issues with school heating.

Hot Weather: During periods of high internal temperatures, the school may authorise a 'Summer Protocol'. During these specific periods, students will be permitted to remove their ties and undo their top button.

6 Procedures in terms of exemptions and non-compliance

- The standards we have set out are an attempt to achieve the outlined aims above. They have been set to strike a balance between common sense and enforceability.
- Students can request a deviation from this policy in the case of a protected characteristic as defined in the IOM's Equality Act.
- Students who do not meet the standards and do not have a relevant protected characteristic will be asked to make the necessary changes in an appropriate timeframe.
- Non-compliance will be processed through our Behaviour policy.
- If non-compliance constitutes a health and safety risk a student will be removed from an activity, lesson, or general circulation to ensure the safety and wellbeing of students, staff and/or guests to the school.
- Any student not meeting the standards of uniform may be asked to go home and change.

7 KS5 students

As young adults, KS5 students are permitted to have more uniform choice and are expected to exercise self-regulation and responsibility when it comes to their dress, acting as role models to younger students. The school has a separate KS5 Dress Code, see Appendix 3.

Any inappropriate clothing in or out of lessons will be discussed between the KS5 student and the Head of Sixth form.

8 Staff

All staff are role models to all our students. As such we should "demonstrate the positive values, attitudes and behaviour we expect from children and young people" (Professional Standards for Teachers).

The school is a professional organisation and dress should reflect this. Dress should be appropriate to the staff role. Dress and general appearance should not incite, intimidate, break Health & Safety regulations or impede the ability to carry out our professional roles for health & safety reasons, teaching staff are strongly advised not to wear backless shoes/sandals. Staff who work in workshops or laboratories are particularly advised to wear appropriate footwear. The school may not be able to support staff who do not follow the Health & Safety advice, for example in the case of a claim for injuries where inappropriate footwear may have contributed.

Identity badges should be worn.

9 Cost to Parents

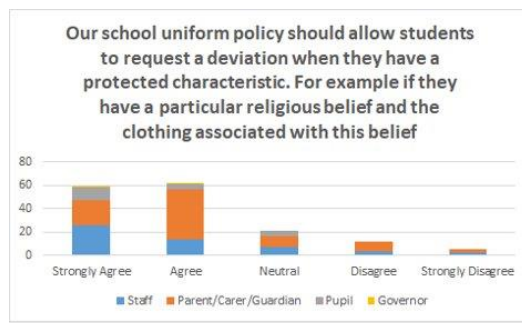
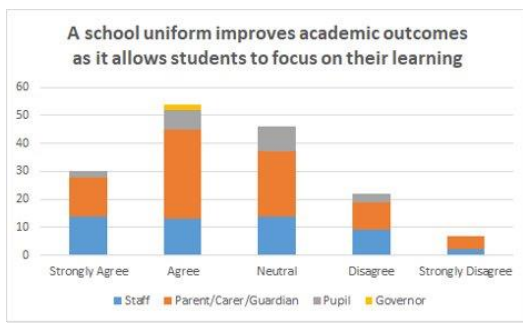
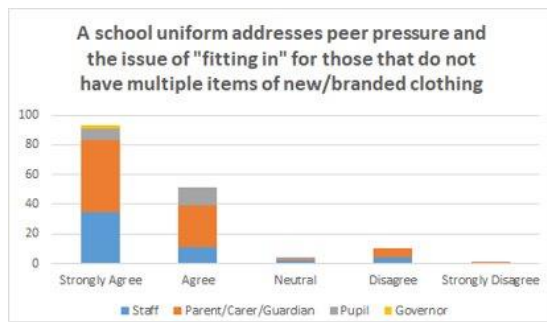
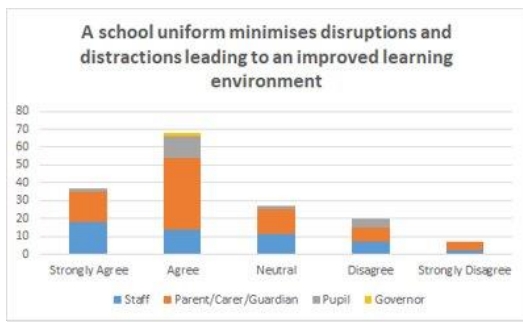
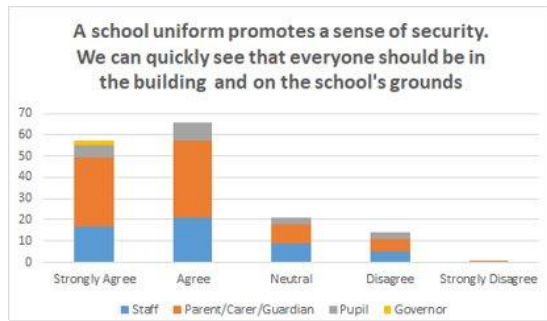
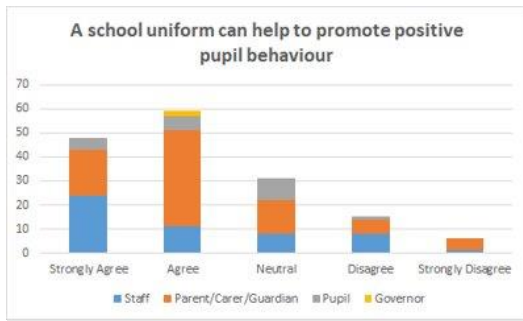
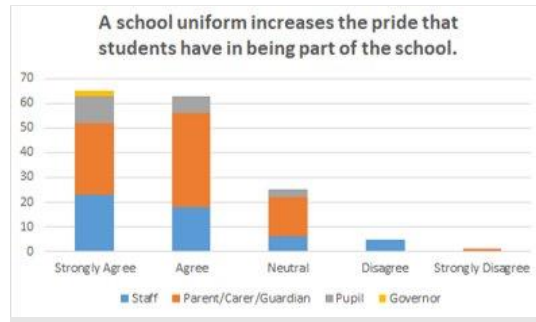
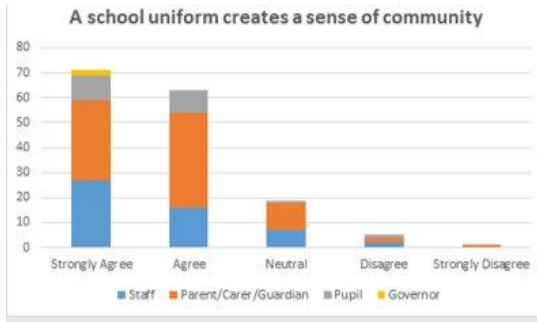
The school has tried to balance cost considerations with the other stated aims of this policy; the only items of school uniform that must have the school badge/logo are the school blazer and a single PE garment. Separate sew-on badges can be purchased from the School Office.

Students and families who are experiencing financial hardship in respect of uniform are requested to approach their child's Head of Year in confidence.

Uniform items can be purchased locally from:

- Promenade T Shirts, Queens Promenade, Douglas: hooded tops, polo shirts, rugby shirts, school blazers (with pre-sewn badge) & school jumpers only.

Appendix 1 – Consultation Results



Appendix 2 - Games/P.E. Kit

The following kit is required:

Sky blue/navy rugby shirt with CRHS logo (rugby/ football)* OR sky blue/navy windbreaker with CRHS logo (netball/hockey)**

PLAIN short sleeved sky blue t-shirt*

PLAIN navy shorts/skort/leggings (unbranded with no graphics or text on the leg)

PLAIN sky blue knee length sports socks (Games)

Short white socks (PE)

Trainers/astro shoes

Studded boots (football/rugby)

One piece swimming costume and towel

The following kit is optional:

Sky blue or navy base layer

Plain navy blue rugby shorts with CRHS logo *

Sky blue/navy windbreaker with CRHS logo (rugby/football)**

** Available from Promenade T Shirts, Queens Promenade, Douglas*

*** CRHS windbreaker is sourced through Castle Rushen High School*

Appendix 3 – CRHS Sixth form Dress Code

GENERAL PRINCIPLES

Sixth formers are role models. It is essential that you always look SMART in school.

As well as the overarching requirement to look smart, this code sets out CRHS's dress code expectations, which you should follow.

Colours

Our colour palette for items of clothing is **black, grey or navy**. All items should be **plain and only these colours** unless additional colours are stated alongside a specific item.

Our dress code comprises:

- Smart shirt with school tie/plain tie (any colour), or blouse. The shirt/blouse may be white
- Smart trousers, skirt or dress
- Smart jacket or suit
- Smart shoes, low heels allowed
- Smart thin knitwear may be worn under the jacket

Further information:

Smart clothing is required. Casual clothing, for example hoodies, t-shirts, lycra, denim, leggings, trainers, chunky jumpers or items with logos, is not allowed.

The appropriateness of hairstyles, hair colour, jewellery and accessories will be considered in terms of health and safety and overall smartness.

The final decision on all dress related matters including whether a student's dress is smart enough rests with the Head of Sixth Form, consulting with the Headteacher as necessary.