



THE  
SWANAGE  
SCHOOL

# UNIFORM GUIDE 2024

# A NEW LOOK!

We introduced a new uniform in September 2023, starting our 10th anniversary year with a new look!

At The Swanage School we have a culture of high standards and believe this should be reflected in our uniform. We think it is important that our students have a strong identity with their school and wear their uniform with pride, promoting positive behaviour while at school and in the wider community.

In reviewing our uniform, we paid attention to themes that arose in survey responses received from students, parents and staff and addressed feedback on comfort, quality, cost, choice and ease of purchasing, whilst retaining a smart uniform that continues to reflect the 'The Swanage School identity'.

**New students:** All new students and those who started during the 2023-24 academic year wear the new uniform.

**Older students:** In September 2024, we enter the second year of the two-year transition phase for students who were already at the school prior to the change. Please see the important information below on the phasing-in period as we switch from one look to another.

## A TWO YEAR TRANSITION: SEPT 2023 – JULY 2025

There continues to be no expectation that those students who were already at the school when we introduced the new uniform (i.e. students going into Year 9, 10 or 11 in September 2024) switch to the new uniform or sports kit before the end of the transition period, unless items have worn out / grown out in the meantime. Important information is given below on what is acceptable during this time.

### NO ADDITIONAL COST

During the transition period, students may continue to wear items from the old-style uniform. However, when items wear out or are grown out, replacement items should be from the new uniform range. Exceptions to this would be, for example, where larger sizes are already available in the family due to older siblings having attended the school.

### MIXING OLD AND NEW (to a degree!)

We understand that items wear out or are grown out at different times, so during the transition period it will be acceptable, for example, to wear new navy trousers / skirt with an existing grey suit jacket prior to a navy jumper / cardigan being purchased, or for existing grey trousers / skirt

to be worn with a new navy jumper / cardigan until the trousers / skirt need replacing.

Similarly, with the sports kit, it will be acceptable for new style tops to be worn with old style bottoms and vice versa.

Please see information below on what level of 'mixing' is not acceptable.

## Ties

Ties are compulsory for both boys and girls.

The tie design did not change, but is now available in both traditional and clip-on versions.

If opting for a traditional tie, students will need to perfect the art of tying it so that the 'wave' design shows in the v-neck of their jumper / cardigan!

## What you can't mix!

As always, there is to be no 'mixing and matching' between the uniform and the sports kit, either with new items or with existing ones, in any combinations.

Students must wear a correct uniform for school, within the guidelines given above and throughout this booklet, and change into a full sports kit for PE lessons and any sports fixtures.

For example, it is not acceptable to wear sports leggings an old-style grey jacket, nor with a new navy jumper / cardigan, and it is not acceptable to wear the sports tee or polo with school trousers / skirt instead of a shirt & tie.

# OUR NEW UNIFORM

## WHITE SHIRT

Top button fastened.  
Shirts must be tucked in.

Buy from: any retailer

## SCHOOL TIE

For all students.

Buy from: TSS uniform supplier

## NAVY JUMPER

With school logo.

- Standard jumper (unisex):  
cotton blend

- Female fit jumper: cotton

*Please note the female fit jumpers are  
100% cotton and therefore may be prone  
to shrinking if tumble-dried.*

Buy from: TSS uniform supplier



## NAVY TROUSERS

Tailored style, regular or slim fit.

Not permitted: Leggings or culottes, flared, hipster, skinny or relaxed fit, jeans, chinos, or decorated styles.

Buy from: any retailer

## FABRICS:

Trousers, skirts and shorts should be in a tailored style. Denim, chino, cords, lycra and jersey fabrics are not acceptable for TSS schoolwear.

## ALTERNATIVES



### NAVY CARDIGAN

Girls may wear a navy cardigan (female fit) with school logo. Cotton blend.

Buy from: TSS uniform supplier



### TAILORED NAVY SHORTS

May be worn in hot weather by both boys and girls. Must be of a tailored style. No sports / casual shorts.

Buy from: any retailer



### PLEATED NAVY SKIRT

Girls may wear a pleated navy skirt (suitable length). Straight, tube skirts and culottes are not permitted.

Buy from: any retailer

## BLACK SHOES

Plain black shoes, no more than 1 inch heel. See guidelines in this booklet for more information about shoes.

## SOCKS & TIGHTS (NO LEGGINGS)

White, navy, grey or black socks, below knee. Girls can wear natural, black or navy tights as an alternative. Leggings may not be worn in place of tights.

# OPTIONAL OUTERWEAR

## TSS SOFT SHELL JACKET (OPTIONAL)

With school logo on back.

May be worn as outerwear during breaks & lunch and for walking to & from school, or as an additional layer in school on cold days.

**School soft shell jackets may be worn in addition to the school jumper, not in place of it.**

The TSS soft shell may be worn in school, however other outer-wear may not (see guidelines).

Buy from: TSS uniform supplier



## RAISING STANDARDS AND KEEPING THEM HIGH

We firmly believe that taking pride in a smart appearance at school is linked to taking pride in school work and to promoting positive behaviour standards. We all want to focus on teaching and learning, rather than waste valuable time and strain relationships by repeatedly having to deal with uniform infringements.

We take a strict stance on uniform standards to ensure everyone understands what is expected and we appreciate your support in ensuring your son/daughter is appropriately dressed for the school day.

Only in rare exceptional circumstances, at the discretion of the Headteacher, will permission be given for alternative items to be worn.

### What happens if a student arrives at school in incorrect uniform?

In the first instance, if a student arrives at school in incorrect uniform, parents will be called and asked to bring in the correct uniform or to take their son/daughter home to change.

We will ask for shoes or items of uniform / sports kit to be changed if they do not meet the expectations and guidelines set out in this booklet.



# OUR UPDATED SPORTS KIT

## TSS SPORTS TEE

Crew neck with school logo, unisex.

OR

## TSS SPORTS POLO

With school logo; available in standard (unisex) or female fit.

Buy from: TSS uniform supplier



## 1/4 ZIP TSS SPORTS TOP

With school logo.

OR

## FULL ZIP TSS SPORTS TOP

With school logo.

Worn with the TSS sports tee or polo, not instead of.

Buy from: TSS uniform supplier



Once you have chosen your tops, choose between shorts or track pants (both unisex), or for girls an additional choice of skort or sports leggings if preferred. All with logo.

Buy from: TSS uniform supplier



TSS SPORTS SHORTS



TSS SKORT



TSS TRAINING PANTS



TSS SPORTS LEGGINGS

## TRAINERS

Appropriate sports trainers must be worn for PE lessons and sports clubs. Canvas, high-top, converse, crocs etc are not permitted.

## SOCKS

Plain white sports socks:

Buy from: any retailer

Navy/sky coolmax socks: optional

For students who wish to wear shinpads (e.g. football, rugby, or for clubs).

Buy from: TSS uniform supplier

# GUIDELINES

## Outerwear

Students are encouraged to wear sensible weatherproof coats in cold or wet weather, or to wear the TSS soft shell jacket. Coats should be plain and any logo must be small.

## Hoodies

Hoodies are not permitted in school nor on site during school hours (except, during the transition period, the TSS sports hoodie, or existing TSS team hoodies).

## Trousers, skirts & shorts

Trousers, skirts and shorts must be of an appropriate 'school' tailored style, in navy.

- Trousers may be slim-fit or standard fit.
- Skirts must be pleated and should be worn no more than 2 inches above the knee.
- Tailored school shorts may be worn in hot weather by both boys and girls.

The following are not acceptable as TSS school uniform: leggings or culottes; skinny, relaxed, flared or cargo trousers; straight or tube skirts; sports or casual shorts. Items chosen should not be in denim, chino, cord, lycra or jersey fabrics.

Belts should be plain navy or black with a small discreet buckle.

## Shirts and Ties

Shirts are plain white, short or long sleeved, and must be tucked in. All students wear a tie and these must be worn correctly - top button done up and tie up to the collar. Students who do not wear a tie for more than two days in a row will be issued with one and parents invoiced.

## Shoes

Sensible, smart, plain, black shoes with a maximum heel height of 1

inch. For more guidance see next page.

## Socks and tights

Socks must be white, navy, grey or black and should not be worn above the knee. Girls may wear natural, black or navy tights as an alternative. Socks of a different colour should not be worn in addition to tights, nor should leggings be worn as an alternative.

## Jewellery and piercings

Students are not allowed to wear jewellery. The only exception to this rule is for items mandated by a student's religion and single small ear studs (no more than one in each ear). These must be removed for PE, along with watches. The school does not permit the wearing of nose rings/ studs or any other piercing. However students may wear a small, clear, discreet retainer in these piercings if they choose to.

## Make-up

In years 7 - 9, students are not allowed to wear make-up. From Year 10, if worn, make-up must be subtle. Fake eyelashes, fake nails and nail varnish are not permitted.

## Hair

Hair colour must be natural and one colour. Extreme fashion hairstyles will not be acceptable. Hair longer than shoulder length should be tied back in practical lessons such as Science, Design & Technology and Food & Nutrition, and during PE lessons.

## Bags

Books (and equipment) must be carried to and from school in a suitable bag – one that is able to carry A4 size folders.

## Labels

ALL uniform items/bags/coats/shoes should be clearly named.

## PE / SPORTS

### Trainers

Appropriate sports trainers are required for PE lessons and sports clubs. Canvas, high-top, converse, crocs etc are not suitable and are not permitted. These do not give enough support to feet during sports.

### Football boots / studded footwear

Studded footwear is recommended for sports such as football and rugby, ideally with moulded studs rather than metal or plastic. The PE teacher will advise when these lessons are taking place.

### Shin pads

Although not required for PE lessons, students may choose to wear shin pads. If worn, students will need a pair of navy/sky coolmax socks, which are available from our uniform supplier, or a pair can usually be borrowed from the PE department.

### Gum shields

Gum shields are required for rugby lessons. These will be available to purchase from school at the time.

### Fixtures

The school has team kit which is used by students participating in fixtures. This is laundered at school.

### Changing for PE

Students wear their school uniform to school every day, and on PE days must bring their sports kit to school in an appropriate bag. Students are expected to change quickly to avoid delays in starting the lesson, and to avoid being late for their next lesson.

### Sports clubs

For extra-curricular clubs, appropriate sports kit should be worn. This does not need to be TSS kit but must be athletic clothing and footwear suitable for the activity.

# SHOE STANDARDS

For the avoidance of doubt in relation to acceptability of shoes, please see below. If you are unsure about whether a planned purchase will be acceptable, please seek confirmation before buying as we will ask for alternative shoes to be worn if necessary.



Sports trainers are not permitted as school shoes at TSS, however trainer-type shoes will be acceptable if they are all of the following:

- flat (non-wedge) and not high-top
- leather (or leather look)
- all black (i.e. no coloured soles, logos)
- 'shoe' sole rather than a 'trainer' sole



## THE TRAINER DEBATE

When is a trainer a school shoe?

Wedge or high-top



Fabric / mesh top



Coloured logos and/or soles



Sports trainer soles



# PURCHASING

## HOW TO BUY TSS ITEMS

TSS Uniform and sports kit is available to order from **our official supplier, the Purbeck Media Group**.

Purbeck Media Group offer a trying-on service, and will be present in school 2 or 3 times in the Summer Term, including on Transition Evening for new parents, for trying-on and ordering. Dates and times will be advised.

Orders can be placed during a trying-on session at the school or Purbeck Media Group offer online, phone or in-person ordering. Whilst some stock sizes are held, many items are embroidered to order and you should allow up to 3 weeks, particularly during busy times. They deliver free to school for collection or, for a small delivery charge, to home, or you can collect in person from their premises in Wareham.

To order online, navigate to the 'Schools' section of Purbeck Media Group's website to find 'The Swanage School'.

PURBECK MEDIA GROUP  
12 Westminster Road  
Wareham  
Dorset  
BH20 4SN  
Phone 01929 422 470  
Website: [www.purbeckmedia.group](http://www.purbeckmedia.group)

## WHERE TO BUY OTHER ITEMS:

Sainsbury (Tu), Asda (George), Tesco (F&F), Marks & Spencer and Next are among the high street retailers who sell navy trousers, skirts and shorts via their websites. Some also stock navy products in store, but this does vary.

## PRICING

SCHOOL UNIFORM	KNITWEAR (REQUIRED)	
	TSS V-Neck Jumper, Standard Fit, Cotton Blend, or	From £26.75
	TSS V-Neck jumper, Female Fit, Cotton, or	
	TSS V-Neck Cardigan, Female Fit, Cotton Blend	
	TIE (REQUIRED)	
	Standard, or	£11.50
Clip-on	£12.00	
OUTERWEAR (OPTIONAL)		
TSS Soft Shell	From £26.50	
SPORTS KIT	SPORTS TOP (REQUIRED)	
	TSS Training Tee, Unisex, or	From £11.40
	TSS Polo, Standard Fit, or	From £16.25
	TSS Polo, Female Fit	From £16.25
	SPORTS OUTER LAYER (REQUIRED)	
	TSS 1/4 Zip Training Top, or	From £21.25
	TSS Full Zip Training Top	From £21.75
	SPORTS BOTTOM (REQUIRED)	
	TSS Sports Shorts, Unisex, or	From £13.25
	TSS Training Pants, Unisex, or	From £29.60
	TSS Sports Leggings, Female Fit, or	From £24.75
	TSS Skort, Female Fit	From £25.75
	SPORTS SOCKS (OPTIONAL)	
Navy/sky Coolmax Socks	From £7.60	

Larger sizes attract VAT

## FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

We realise that buying a uniform is expensive and want to help with these costs where we are able to. For students registered as eligible for Free School Meals we will subsidise the initial cost of qualifying items purchased from our official supplier. The subsidy is a discount of 70% on qualifying items for incoming students (parents pay 30% of the cost), and on subsequent purchases is 30% (parents pay 70% of the cost).

**Qualifying items:** the subsidy is reimbursed after purchase and is available on **one item of each type**, i.e. one school jumper or one cardigan, one sports tee or one sports polo, one choice of sports bottoms, etc. Where you choose to purchase more than one item of a 'type' (e.g. sports leggings *and* sports shorts), it is the higher priced item that is subsidised.

**To claim:** after purchase, please email the school office with a copy of your itemised order confirmation or receipt from the Purbeck Media Group to apply for the reimbursement.

[office@theswanageschool.co.uk](mailto:office@theswanageschool.co.uk)

If your child is not eligible for Free School Meals but you are in financial hardship please talk to us.