



22 October 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to take this opportunity to remind families of our Soham Village College expectations regarding student uniform. Uniform is always an emotive subject, with some students and their families believing our expectations are too lenient and others too formal.

At Soham Village College, we believe that wearing uniform helps to create a sense of identity, belonging and community in school. Our uniform aims to be smart, practical, comfortable and inclusive and we expect students to wear it with pride when at school, on journeys between home and school, and when representing the school on visits and fixtures. We have tried to factor in cost into our uniform expectations (and follow the Government's guidance on branded items), which is why we include unbranded white shirts, grey skirts and shorts, along with black trousers.

The vast majority of our students wear the school uniform as expected, but now that we are towards the end of the first Autumn half term, a few less appropriate patterns are emerging. While our uniform policy remains unchanged, my interpretation as Principal may be a little different from my predecessor and I would like to clarify the expectations around shirts, ties and skirts. Providing clarity should help us to be consistent and fair and make sure students know what to expect.

After the half term break, we will be sharing the simple visuals below with students, opting for reminding our students of the "3 Ts" and the "Thumb Rule" (as a minimum skirt length). For the first two weeks after our break, staff will verbally remind students, in form time, in classrooms, as students arrive for assemblies and at other points in the school day. This will enable families to have time to make any adjustments needed in the form of clothing items, such as skirts.



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As we move beyond the first two weeks after half term, students breaching the uniform policy will still be given the opportunity to comply upon request but for those not routinely meeting expectations, staff will follow up with sanctions in line with our behaviour policy. I would also like to remind students and families about our expectations regarding jewellery and piercings. Only permitted items, as outlined in the uniform policy, should be worn in school. Our expectations around piercings are closely linked to health and safety and the need to remove all jewellery to safely participate in statutory PE lessons or practical subjects such as DT. Any items outside of these guidelines should be removed before arriving at school.

Our current uniform expectations are available on our website - [Soham Village College - School Uniform](#).

We appreciate that families may occasionally face difficulties with uniform items. If this is the case, please contact your child's Head of Year or Student Support team, and we will be happy to assist. You can also contact our community uniform scheme, with details also found on our school uniform page

We appreciate your support in maintaining high standards and would like to thank you for your continued cooperation.

Yours sincerely,

David Clarke
Principal