

Meadowhead School and Sixth Form



Dress Code 2026-2027

This is a policy of Meadowhead School and Sixth Form.

Staff Responsible:	David Sheppard - Assistant Headteacher
Author:	David Sheppard – Assistant Headteacher
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At Meadowhead, we make a difference



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Registered company address: Dyche Lane, Sheffield, S8 8BR. Company Registered Number 07933749

At Meadowhead, our dress code and uniform is based on the following clear principles:

Smart – Students should attend school in a uniform that helps signify to themselves and others that school is a working environment. It also helps students meet the expectations of dress codes they may later encounter in work.

Safe - A student's uniform should keep them safe and comfortable throughout the school day and for all lessons on their timetable. It also helps safeguard all of the school community by being a clear sign of their right to be inside the school's building.

The Same – Our uniform reduces the impact of economic inequality: it reduces family spending by removing pressure to buy the latest brands. It treats all students the same regardless of any characteristics such as sex, faith or ethnicity. It is also sustainable as our required items are hardwearing and durable.

Students should be proud to wear the uniform and act as an ambassador for their school. This code applies to students in Y7-Y11, the Sixth Form dress code is published separately on the school website.

Students are expected to meet the following parts of the dress code:

- Wear a black sweatshirt with the school logo – this must be brought to school, even when not worn.
- Wear a black or white polo shirt with the school logo.
- Wear plain black trousers or a skirt with dark black tights. Items that are not smart enough for school and are not permissible include: jeans, jogging trousers, leggings, shorts or cut offs, and trousers with stripes or logos. Skirts should be around knee length to ensure safe and comfortable movement in lessons and around school. Plain black abaya and similar items may be worn underneath a school polo shirt.
- Wear plain black leather or leather-look shoes. These may be trainer in design but as well as being leather-look with a hard outer shell, there must be no logos or coloured lines.
- Wear an outdoor jacket or coat if they wish (i.e. made of waterproof material) during transition around school, and at breaks and lunch. However, these must be removed in lessons. Hoodies, jumpers and denim jackets are not permissible as they are not smart enough for school and do not keep students dry in any inclement weather.
- Wear only the permitted jewellery: a single pair of stud earrings (less than 1cm in diameter - worn in the ear lobe), a single nose stud and a single wristwatch. Hooped earrings, tongue and other body piercings, bracelets and neckchains are not permitted as they are not safe or smart enough for school.
- Wear only minimal make-up and clear and unobservable nail varnish to maintain a smart appearance. All nails must be kept trimmed short to a safe length that is around the end of the finger/thumb. False nails and acrylics are not permitted as they are not safe or comfortable for students to wear to school.
- Maintain a smart hairstyle. Hair dye and braid colours should either be the school's colours of black or white, or a natural colour (such as brown, ginger, blonde). This does not need to be the student's own natural hair colour. Non-natural hair dyes and braid colours such as blue, pink and bright red are not permitted.
- Wear smart and safe head or hair coverings as required for religious or protective reasons. These must be worn securely to the head and body, and must be in the school colours of black or white. Hats, caps and hoods must not be worn.

Meadowhead is a Halo Code school and is firmly committed to an inclusive approach to all hair types. We recognise that afro-textured hair requires specific styling for hair health and maintenance and as such hair worn in styles such as afros, locs, braids and wraps are permitted as long as they meet the above.

For PE, students will be required to wear:

- A Meadowhead black PE T-shirt with logo
- Black shorts or plain black tracksuit bottoms (no logo) or black sports leggings (no logo). Flared leggings are not safe for some sports so are not permitted.
- A plain black or white long sleeved base layer to wear **under** their PE T-shirt for outdoor activities. Alternatively, students may also wear one of the optional Meadowhead branded items such as the rugby shirt, the zipped top or the hooded top.

- A change of clean trainers for indoor sports and boots/trainers for outdoor sports. These should not be the same as a student's black "leather-look" trainers that they might wear for school.
- All jewellery, even that permitted elsewhere in school, must be removed for PE lessons.

As each part of the dress code has a clear rationale, we expect full support from students and families. Exceptions and adjustments will be rare and only supported by the recommendations of senior and specialist professionals. For example, as an adjustment following an operation. Students will be sanctioned, required to wear items provided by the school, and in some cases, sent home to change if they do not meet these expectations. Items not permitted under the code such as jewellery and hooded tops will be confiscated. This code is set prior to the start of each academic year and school staff will not usually be able to enter into discussions or negotiations of the code with individual students or families. However, school staff will take a supportive approach to remove any barriers that exist due to individual circumstances. For example, second-hand uniform is available from student services while stocks last. The school will make adjustments to the policy if warnings about extreme weather are received.