



COLERAINE GRAMMAR SCHOOL SCHOOL UNIFORM POLICY

INTRODUCTION

All pupils are required to wear the uniform as listed and in the manner indicated.

All pupils of Coleraine Grammar School are expected to wear our full school uniform.

It is understood that on acceptance of a place at the School the pupil will wear the uniform correctly to and from school and on all school occasions as directed by the Headmaster. Pupils must adhere to all of these regulations and take a pride in their own appearance, so reflecting the good reputation of the School.

All pupils representing Coleraine Grammar School at sporting or other events will be required to wear school uniform.

The Board of Governors, Headmaster and Staff believe school uniform is essential to the ethos of our school community as it plays a valuable role by setting an appropriate tone, instilling pride in the school, supporting positive behaviour and discipline, encouraging identity with and support for the school ethos, ensuring pupils of all races and backgrounds feel welcome, protecting children from social pressures to dress in a particular way, nurturing cohesion and promoting good relations between different groups of pupils which in turn supports effective teaching and learning.

Coleraine Grammar School endeavours to ensure that the school uniform policy is fair and reasonable, in practical and financial terms. This uniform policy takes account of DENI Circular 2011/04 (revised 5 June 2018) which provides guidance and advice on uniform policy.

1. NON-COMPLIANCE WITH THE SCHOOL UNIFORM POLICY

Our Uniform Policy is clearly communicated to pupils/students and parents/carers. As a result, any deliberate breach of regulations will result in formal sanctions.

Where a pupil is not adhering to the school uniform policy, Coleraine Grammar School will initially make discreet enquires as to why this is the case as there may be a number of valid reasons for it. For instance, the uniform may have been lost, stolen or damaged. Where financial circumstances are preventing pupils from wearing the correct uniform Coleraine Grammar School will be sensitive to the situation and allow parents/carers sufficient time to purchase the required items. If eligible, CGS will assist them with an application for grant under the Clothing Allowance Scheme. Pupils should not feel

uncomfortable or discriminated against because their parents/carers are unable to provide them with the required items of uniform.

Where a pupil is deliberately not complying with the regulations the following sanctions may be applied:

- First offence – detention either lunchtime or after school, depending upon the degree of non-compliance.
- For subsequent offences a range of sanctions may be imposed which will include: – contact with parents/carers as appropriate, detention (including Saturday Morning) and ultimately the sanction of suspension/exclusion, for persistent and deliberate non-compliance.

2. TRAVELLING TO SCHOOL

CGS encourages pupils to wear a plain dark coloured shower proof coat (with reflective qualities) which covers the school blazer, when walking to or from school in the winter. Hoodies are not part of school uniform and are not allowed.

3. EQUALITY AND OTHER ISSUES

A range of legislation exists to prohibit unlawful discrimination and protect the rights of individuals in various areas including human rights, race, sex and disability. CGS is mindful of the concept of “indirect” discrimination. This involves the application of a requirement, which, although applied equally to everyone, puts those of a particular gender, race, religion or belief at a disadvantage because they cannot, in practice, comply with it. The Human Rights Act 1998 gives legal effect here to 16 of the fundamental rights and freedoms contained in the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR). These rights include the freedom of thought, conscience and religion. A person is free to hold a broad range of views, beliefs and thoughts and to follow a religious faith. The right to manifest those beliefs may be limited only in specified circumstances. These include health, safety and the protection of the rights and freedoms of others. Various religions require their followers to conform to a particular dress code or to otherwise outwardly manifest their belief. This may include wearing particular items of clothing; holding a belief that they should not cut their hair; or dressing modestly, e.g. covering their head. CGS endeavours to accommodate these where they can. When a pupil elects to wear an additional item of headwear for religious reasons, this must comply with the school colours and should be plain navy.

4. COST OF SCHOOL UNIFORM

The cost of a school uniform and other related items such as physical education (PE) clothing can be expensive. Financial assistance is available through the Education Authority’s Clothing Allowance Scheme for certain categories of pupils towards the cost of school uniforms and appropriate clothing suitable for PE. The eligibility criteria are the same as those used for Free School Meals. (Around 20% of the school population in Northern Ireland is entitled to free school meals.)

5. COLERAINE GRAMMAR SCHOOL UNIFORM

COMPULSORY ITEMS OF UNIFORM:

Blazer:	All pupils must wear the Coleraine Grammar School Blazer throughout the school day. Blazers may be removed during lessons but must be worn between classes. Only pupils who are awarded Honours may wear the Coleraine Grammar School Honours Blazer in Years 13 - 14.
Skirt/Trousers:	Girls in Year 8 - 10 are required to wear a Harrow Grey, 6 gore, A-line skirt with zipped pocket. The style of the skirt must not be altered. In Years 11 - 14 a Harrow Grey skirt with kick pleat and zipped pocket is required for girls. The style of all skirts must not be altered and should be worn at the waist and touching the knee. Skirts for all girls should not be too tight. They should be able to pinch at least 2cms of fabric at each side when standing. Skirts must not be rolled up at the waistband. Parents/carers will be notified if either the length or width of their daughter's skirt does not adhere to the guidance given above. All boys are required to wear standard fit Harrow Grey trousers.
Tie:	A regulation Coleraine Grammar School tie should be worn. The Coleraine Grammar School tie is to be worn tied in a neat tight knot with the crest clearly visible. This should be long enough to reach to the 5th button on the shirt or blouse. When a pupil is awarded Honours they may then wear the appropriate Coleraine Grammar School Honours tie.
Socks/Tights:	Girls may wear plain black tights or plain grey socks. Girls may not wear black tights with summer uniform. Boys should wear plain grey or black socks.
Shoes:	To ensure the safety of pupils while moving around the campus, outdoor shoes MUST be sturdy, black leather, plain, and flat heeled providing good support. Canvas, nubuck, suede or patent are not acceptable. Soft soled ballet style pumps are not acceptable for girls and trainer style shoes are not acceptable for boys or girls. Examples are available if there is any doubt.
Summer:	In the summer months girls may wear a white, short sleeve blouse with open neck collar and revere. Girls in Years 8-10 wear plain grey knee socks with summer uniform while girls in Years 11-14 may wear natural coloured tights or plain grey socks. Girls may not wear black tights with summer uniform. There are no summer options for boys.

OPTIONAL ITEMS OF UNIFORM:

Knitwear:	Pupils in Years 8-12 may choose to wear the regulation school jumper in green (including green cardigan for girls). Pupils in Years 13 – 14 may choose to wear the Coleraine Grammar School navy blue jumper or cardigan.
Coat:	A plain dark coloured shower proof coat (with reflective qualities) which covers the school blazer, is appropriate.
Scarf:	A Coleraine Grammar School scarf is available. No other scarf should be worn.
Gloves/Hats:	Navy Blue

All pupils should present themselves in a neat and tidy manner each school day. When representing the school all pupils are required to wear full Coleraine Grammar School uniform.

No items of PE uniform may be worn with the formal school uniform. Pupils have the option of wearing the regulation coat over their uniform when travelling to and from school.

There is a regulation scarf available for cold weather. No other scarves are acceptable. Hats / gloves must be plain navy.

PE Uniform

Only regulation PE kit may be worn. Other sports wear is not acceptable either when in class or when representing the school as an individual or member of a team.

All pupils doing PE or Games will be required to wear Coleraine Grammar School PE kit.

Girls: Coleraine Grammar school Polo top, school shorts (Under Armour Elite or Lycra shorts), school socks and Coleraine Grammar school navy track pant.

Boys: Grammar school Polo top, school shorts, school socks, Coleraine Grammar school navy track pant and Coleraine Grammar school rugby/games top.

There are also optional items of Coleraine Grammar school sportswear, available from the approved suppliers, but non-regulation items are not acceptable. Any Under Armour base layers must be in either navy or red, as black or white compression tops or leggings will not be acceptable.

Members of teams may be required to purchase other items of clothing. Other sports equipment will be necessary depending upon requirements of individual sports and staff will advise upon these matters.

Pupils must wear track pants if, owing to restricted changing facilities, PE kit must be worn for a period of time during the school day. No one should wear shorts or a skirt during class or at break or lunchtime.

Pupils travelling home by car after extra-curricular games may travel in games kit, those walking or travelling by public transport should change into school uniform.

6. SUPPLIERS

Coleraine Grammar School uniform will be available in Coleraine and Ballymoney from three official stockists –

1. Heart & Home
2. S & T Moore
3. Robert H Gault.

PE uniform is available from the School directly via the online school shop, and from the following retailers –

1. S & T Moore
2. Heart & Home.

7. MAKEUP, JEWELLERY AND HAIR

Girls - must abide by the regulations regarding makeup. No make-up should be worn in year 8-12. Discreet makeup may be worn in Years 13 – 14. Nail varnish, gel nails, acrylics or false nails are not permitted. Pupils coming to school wearing make-up will be asked to remove it.

Occasionally a pupil may be permitted to wear LIGHT, natural looking foundation to cover a skin condition where the pupil's self-confidence is affected by the situation. Extreme hair styles are not permitted and hair colourings should be kept to a minimum and be of a natural colour. Hair Accessories must be navy blue, white, green or red (as in the colour of the tie).

Jewellery

- One wrist watch and one small plain ring are acceptable.
- Girls with pierced ears will be allowed to wear plain gold/silver small studs, one in the lobe of each ear. Diamante, crystals, gemstones, or other decorative styles are not acceptable.
- Nose studs and other piercings are not acceptable.
- Only badges relating to Coleraine Grammar School may be worn.
- Bracelets are only acceptable if worn for medical reasons (e.g. medic alert).

Boys - are expected to be clean shaven and to keep their hair short, neat and tidy in a conventional style clear of their collar and eyes. For clipper cuts the minimum acceptable is a number 2 on back and sides. Hair colourings should be kept to a minimum and be of a natural colour. Peculiar or exaggerated styles are not permitted. These include: closely cropped, bleached, dyed, tinted or highlighted, patterns or lines cut into the hair.

Additional items

- One watch.
- Bracelets are only acceptable if worn for medical reasons (medic alert style)
- Only badges relating to Coleraine Grammar School may be worn

- Piercings are not acceptable.

The school will implement the school positive behaviour policy if any pupil does not comply with the wearing the school uniform as required. If they repeatedly ignore uniform rules then they will be subject to higher sanctions. (See 1 above).

8. RESPONSIBILITIES

While the Board of Governors have overall responsibility for issues relating to the school uniform there are duties which may be delegated to members of staff through, and at the discretion of, the Headmaster. Heads of Year may impose sanctions for non-compliance with School uniform. It is the duty of all staff to uphold the uniform standard and to be consistent in reporting any noncompliance to the Headmaster, via Year Heads and senior pastoral staff.

9. COMPLAINTS

The School's Complaints Policy will be followed. Any complaints about School uniform must be made in the first instance to the Headmaster. If the complaint is not satisfactorily resolved the complaint will be brought to the attention of the Board of Governors whose decision will be final.

10. MONITORING AND REVIEW

The policy will be reviewed and amended as required.