

Cannock Chase High School
SIXTH FORM

|

Dress Code



STANDARDS

In all areas of school life, we expect the very highest standards of our students.

In order to prepare our Sixth Form students to be 'future ready', an important part of our role is not only to provide the highest standard of teaching but also to equip every student with the skills and knowledge to succeed in the professional world.

It is this commitment that has led to our decision to raise the standard of expectation in terms of dress code.

We believe that our students should be fully prepared for the interviews, work experience and volunteering placements that are a necessary part of preparing for applications, whatever a student's chosen destination post Sixth Form.

Many sixth forms, including those locally, expect students to wear business dress - or even a variation of the school uniform - five days a week. Currently, Cardinal Griffin expects that sixth form students wear business dress four days a week.

Whilst retaining a sense of professional dress for our students, we are still keen to enable students to express individuality and identity at an age when we all recognise this as important.

KEY POINTS:

- **We are committed to expecting the very highest standards of our students in all areas of school life.**
- **Professional dress is an important part of preparing our students to be 'future ready'.**
- **Students require professional dress for future interviews, work experience and voluntary placements.**
- **We are keen to enable students still to express individuality and identity.**

SEPTEMBER 2015 ONWARDS

As of September 2015, all CCHS Sixth Form students will be expected to wear professional dress five days a week.

We have been specific with the language of 'professional' as we do feel that expecting all students to wear suits/business dress would be an inappropriate policy given that many of our students may progress to alternative industries, such as sports, creative or care.

The dress code outlined below hopes to adopt a consistent standard of professional dress, whilst allowing students an appropriate level of individual expression.

***"The way you look directly affects the way you think, feel, and act [...].
When you dress down, you sit down – the couch potato trend. Manners
break down, you begin to feel down, and you're not as effective"
(Kaplan-Leiserson, 2000, p. 39).***

MALE DRESS CODE

- **Shirt with collar.** T-shirts and polo shirts are not acceptable.
- **Tie.** Bow ties are acceptable.
- **Trousers should be tailored.** No jeans, tracksuit bottoms or shorts.
- **Formal shoes,** though not necessarily black. Trainers, pumps, canvas shoes are not acceptable.
- **Smart jacket.** All male students are expected to have a smart jacket with them at all times. This may be in the form of a suit jacket or a fashion blazer worn with tailored trousers (denim jackets are not acceptable).
- **Smart jumper** (optional).

Denim clothing in any form is not acceptable.

SUBJECTS WITH SPECIALIST DRESS CODES

If a student studies a subject that requires different dress, including Sport, Drama, Dance, etc, students are expected to change for this lesson when necessary, following the subject-specific policy, and then change back to professional dress.

HAIR & TATTOOS

Hair should be of a neat, professional style and of a natural colour (dying is acceptable but radical colours are not appropriate). Tattoos must be covered.

JEWELLERY & PIERCINGS

Small amounts of jewellery are acceptable. Loose items are not appropriate for health & safety reasons. Piercings must be discreet, with no more than one piercing in each ear and no facial/tongue piercings, or ear spacers.

It remains the right of senior members of staff to determine whether a particular item of dress is/is not appropriate for Sixth Form.

Students who arrive to Sixth Form inappropriately dressed will be sent home to change.

FEMALE DRESS CODE

- **Skirt, tailored trousers or formal dress.** Skirts and dresses should be of a suitable length (a minimum length of just above the knee). No jeans, tracksuit bottoms, leggings or shorts.
- **Blouse, shirt or tailored top.** Tops that reveal the abdomen or chest are not acceptable, as are strapless or backless tops.
- **Formal shoes or boots** (not above the calf), though not necessarily black. Trainers, pumps, canvas shoes or flip-flops are not acceptable. Heels should be an appropriate height (maximum of 2.5 inches). Sandals are acceptable in the summer.
- **Smart jacket** (optional). This may be in the form of a suit jacket or a fashion blazer worn with tailored trousers (denim jackets are not acceptable).
- **Smart jumper or cardigan** (optional).

Denim clothing in any form is not acceptable.

SUBJECTS WITH SPECIALIST DRESS CODES

If a student studies a subject that requires different dress, including Sport, Drama, Dance, etc, students are expected to change for this lesson when necessary, following the subject-specific policy, and then change back to professional dress.

HAIR, MAKE-UP & TATTOOS

Hair should be in a neat, professional style and of a natural colour (dying is acceptable but radical colours are not appropriate). Make-up should be discreet. Tattoos must be covered.

JEWELLERY & PIERCINGS

Small amounts of jewellery are acceptable, including costume jewellery. Loose items, such as hoop earrings, are not appropriate for health & safety reasons. Piercings must be discreet, with no more than one piercing in each ear and no facial/tongue piercings, or ear spacers.

It remains the right of senior members of staff to determine whether a particular item of dress is/is not appropriate for Sixth Form.

Students who arrive to Sixth Form inappropriately dressed will be sent home to change.