



St. Bede's Catholic School and Byron 6th Form College

'Be who God meant you to be and you will set the world ablaze'



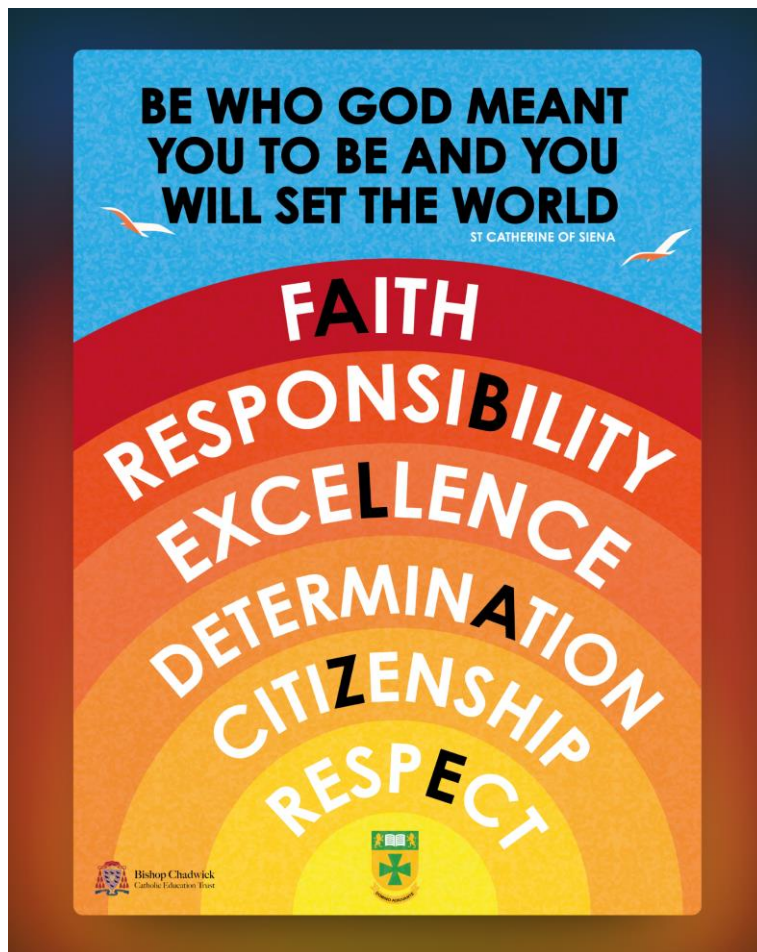
School Uniform Policy Years 7-11

'Show you belong'

VISION

“Be who God meant you to be and you will set the world ablaze.”

St Catherine of Siena.



INTENT

Our school community identity is important at St Bede's Catholic School and Byron Sixth Form; all students have a **responsibility** to celebrate being part of our school community by wearing our full uniform and showing that they belong. Wearing the same items promotes equality. Consequently, we ask all students to show they **respect** the other members of their school community by wearing their uniforms proudly.

We hope our uniform is as affordable as possible and we can offer bespoke support to families that need it. Please contact your child's Head of House if you would like to access this support.

UNIFORM

Pupils must be dressed properly in full uniform.

Available from Little Gems: <https://theschooloutfit.co.uk/>

- Black blazer with school badge.
- School tie (green with gold diagonal stripes).

May be purchased from other retailers:

- V neck black knitted jumper.
- White, standard school shirt, buttoned to neck, tucked in at all times.
- Plain black standard school trousers, worn to the top of the shoe (tight fitting / jean style not permitted) or black pleated skirt (these are available in a two pack from Asda and other retailers at an affordable price) worn to **an appropriate length.** [updated March 2025]
- Plain black tights or white/black socks that are ankle length or below-knee length.
- Plain black formal shoes.
- Sensible waterproof coat that must be removed when entering the building (within one minute is a reasonable request).

Equipment:

Pupils should be properly equipped for every lesson.

- School bag – essential every day - containing:
 - 2 black pens.
 - 2 green pens.
 - Pencil.
 - Ruler.
 - Rubber.
 - Scientific calculator.
 - Knowledge organiser *provided by school.
 - PE kit on appropriate days.
 - Reusable water bottle.
 - Planner *provided by school (replacement planners may be purchased).

Other:

- **Trainers** must not be worn under any circumstances except for PE lessons unless a medical note is provided by a GP.

- Extreme **hairstyles** (tramlines, patterns, steps, unnatural colours) are not acceptable. The shortest hair grade accepted 'all over' is a number 2. If you are not sure if a hairstyle your child wants is considered extreme, please check with their Head of House first.
- **Make-up** (including false tan, fake/tinted eye lashes, false/enhanced/tinted eyebrows, false nails) and **jewellery** (including clear plastic piercing retainers) must not be worn – jewellery will be confiscated and will require collection at the end of the school day. Jewellery and make-up are expensive items and promoting equality is a key intention of our uniform policy. Light concealer may be worn but nothing else.
- Wrist-**watches** may be worn.
- **Hats** must not be worn inside school.

PE Kit:

Students may only wear school branded PE kit or Fast Feet Kit if part of their curriculum.

School branded items may be purchased from Little Gems:

- Black polo shirt (check Little Gems for the style required).
- Black shorts.
- Black school tracksuit bottoms (optional).
- Black ¼ zip school PE sweatshirt (optional).
- Black football socks.
- Trainers.
- Football boots.

*PE will be frequently outside so the sweatshirt is desirable

Fast Feet Kit:

Please see Total Sport website for more information: <https://totalsport.co.uk/>

*For 2024-2025, students may wear any Improtech branded kit they have, replacing it with Fast Feet kit when they require new items.

**Fast Feet branded kit will be available to purchase from 1/7/24. Items bought before 14/7/24 will be delivered in time for the start of the academic year.

ADDITIONAL RATIONALE

Equality Act 2010: legal duties:

The Equality Act 2010 prohibits discrimination against an individual based on the protected characteristics, which include sex, race, religion or belief, and gender reassignment.

To avoid discrimination, St Bede's Catholic School and Sixth Form College:

- Avoids listing uniform items based on sex, giving all students the opportunity to wear the uniform they feel most comfortable in or that most reflects their self-identified gender.

- Ensures that our uniform costs the same for all students.
- Allows all students to have long hair, though we reserve the right for this to be asked to be tied back from the face in practical lessons.
- Allows students to wear headscarves and other religious or cultural symbols. *Parents/carers to discuss this with their Head of House.
- Allows for adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking students or their parents to contact their Head of House, who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests.

Limiting the cost of school uniform:

St Bede's has a duty to make sure that the uniform we require is affordable, in line with statutory guidance from the Department for Education on the cost of school uniform.

We understand that items with distinctive characteristics (such as branded items, or items that have to have a school logo or a unique fabric/colour/design) cannot be purchased from a wide range of retailers and that requiring many such items limits parents' ability to 'shop around' for a low price.

We will make sure our uniform:

- Is available at a reasonable price.
- Provides the best value for money for parents/carers.

We will do this by:

- Carefully considering whether any items with distinctive characteristics are necessary.
- Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost or long-lasting items.
- Avoiding specific requirements for items students could wear on non-school days, such as coats, bags and shoes.

Domino Aduvante – With God’s Help