



Dear Parent/Guardian,

In June of last year the Education Minister launched a public consultation seeking views on school uniform policy and stating that uniforms should be affordable, comfortable and sustainable.

In the consultation the Minister stated ...'*Ultimately my aim is to ensure we both respect the rights of schools to design uniforms that adequately reflect the ethos of their school, but also support parents in addressing the rising costs of school uniforms.*'

He also confirmed that school uniforms play an important part in:

- *the engagement of pupils with their school*
- *promoting a sense of identity, pride and unity*
- *supporting the ethos of the school*
- *ensuring that pupils from all backgrounds feel welcome*
- *protecting children from social pressures to dress in a particular way*
- *promoting good relations between different groups of pupils*
- *supporting the safe-guarding policy of a school, making it easier to identify any individuals who should not be on the premises*

The Board of Governors of Glenlola Collegiate also believes that uniform plays an important role within both the School and the wider community and sets out its rationale clearly in our '*Uniform Policy*' (available on the School website).

In recent years, the Board of Governors has conducted a thorough review of its Uniform Policy in order to maximise affordability and cost-effectiveness for parents/guardians while retaining the known benefits of school uniform.

Measures it has taken to achieve this are:

- *the 'New to you' service which provides the opportunity for parents/guardians to purchase nearly new items (including blazers) for no more than £5 per item*
- *a reduction of the number of compulsory school uniform items which parents/guardians need to buy*
- *the introduction of choice and flexibility for some items*
- *working with suppliers to ensure best value for money*

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Headmaster: W E Thompson BSc MSc MEd PGCE PQH(NI)



Following on from the work that the Board has done, a survey of parents was carried out in November 2024 and I thank those who took part.

A summary of the survey findings is set out below. It indicates a widely held recognition of the benefits of school uniform. Some comments highlight areas that our governors had considered in the previous year while others provide a stimulus for further consideration. I hope that it will be helpful to you as you source uniform items in the coming months.

This has been a substantial and worthwhile consultation, helping to ensure that our girls can wear a comfortable, sustainable and affordable uniform with pride.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

**Mr W E Thompson MSc, MEd, BSc, PGCE, PQH  
Headmaster**



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<b>Parental School Uniform Survey 2024-25</b>			
Total Number of parents/families surveyed=	1026		
Number of parents who completed the survey=	132		
% of parents who completed the survey =	12%		
<b>Why is School Uniform Important?</b>	<b>Number of parents responding</b>	<b>% of all parents</b>	<b>% of parents responding</b>
Promotes a sense of identity within the School Community.	112	10.90%	84.85%
Promotes a sense of pride in belonging to the School Community.	102	9.90%	77.27%
Promotes a sense of unity within the School Community.	102	9.90%	77.27%
Ensures that pupils from all backgrounds feel welcome.	103	10.00%	78.03%
Protects children from social pressures to dress in a particular way.	122	11.90%	92.42%
Helps to mask socio-economic differences between pupils.	95	9.30%	71.97%
Promotes good relations between different groups of pupils.	53	5.20%	40.15%
Supports Safeguarding by making it easier to identify individuals who should not be on the premises.	112	10.90%	84.85%
Helps to prepare pupils to be comfortable with the constraints and norms that they will encounter in society and the workplace as adults.	63	6.10%	47.73%
The School's 'New to You' Uniform sale is a sustainable, affordable method of making good quality uniform items available to all.	98	9.60%	74.24%
Other	1	0.10%	0.76%
<b>Comments from parents who completed the survey (4):</b>			
Wearing a proper school uniform not only instills pride in yourself & how you look & present yourself, but also discipline as well.			
A uniform prevents battles in the home in relation to what would be appropriate clothing to wear to school.			
There is great potential for all of the above statements to be true and when it is done well a school uniform can achieve each of the above for the school community. But simply having a uniform in place does not guarantee the validity of the above statements.			
Pupils look smart and represent the school.			
<b>Common themes in survey:</b>			
Cost			
Durability			
Washability			
Comfort			
Branding			

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Indicative costs from approved suppliers (accurate in March 2025)					
	Min Cost £	Max Cost £	other information		
<b>REQUIRED UNIFORM ITEMS</b>					
Black BLAZER	79.95	94.95			
SKIRT YRS 8-12	24.95	29.95			
SKIRT YRS 13-14	22.95	26.95			
TROUSERS	23.95	27.95			
BLOUSE	16.95	19.95			
SWEATER/CARDIGAN	17.95	28.95			
TIE JUNIOR	6.5	6.5			
TIE MIDDLE/SENIOR	6	6			
SOCKS (sept/summer alternative to tights)	7.95	7.95			
TIGHTS -2PK	5.95	6.95			
SHOES	37	65			
<i>Total</i>	<i>250.1</i>	<i>321.1</i>			
<b>OPTIONAL UNIFORM ITEMS</b>					
SCARF	27.95	27.95			
COAT (NOT SUPPLIED BY SUPPLIERS)					
SUMMER BLOUSE	15.95	15.95			
<b>PE KIT: REQUIRED ITEMS</b>					
POLO SHIRT White with (blue sleeve & school crest - supplier only)	21.95	26.95			
SKORT* (royal blue)	23.95	28.95	*Skort optional for all but team players		
1/4 ZIP FLEECE (royal blue - school crest - good quality/hard wearing)	49.95	59.95			
NAVY TRACK BOTTOMS (school crest)	32.95	39.95			
NAVY LEGGINGS (opaque with no branding)	32.95	32.95	must be opaque without branding		
TRAINING SHOES	60	120			
WHITE SOCKS	5.95	5.95			
BLUE TEAM SOCKS (for team members only)	7.95	8.95			
HOCKEY STICK	14	45	We give away sticks from lost property		
SHIN PADS	10.99	14.99			
MOUTH GUARD	10	10			
TENNIS RACKET	14.99	30	We give away racquets from lost property		
<i>Total PE Kit</i>	<i>285.63</i>	<i>423.64</i>			

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