## Pleckgate High School, Pleckgate Road, Blackburn, BB1 8QA

#### 01254 249134 | info@pleckgate.com | www.pleckgate.com

18<sup>th</sup> July 2025

Dear Parents / Carers

# Re: Uniform, Dress & Appearance

At Pleckgate High School we pride ourselves in maintaining the highest standards in all areas of school life, and this includes our expectations around uniform and personal appearance. As we strive to foster a respectful, responsible, and resilient learning environment, the way our pupils present and conduct themselves plays a vital role.

Our uniform is a symbol of belonging, pride, and equality. Wearing the correct uniform reinforces our shared values, promotes a sense of community and reduces distractions, allowing pupils to focus on what truly matters - learning, achievement and wellbeing. Our uniform also sets the tone for behaviour and discipline. When pupils take pride in their appearance, it often reflects positively in their attitude towards learning, their peers, and staff. It prepares them for the expectations of the workplace and wider society, where dress codes and high standards of presentation are essential.

A detailed guide to our uniform policy is <u>attached</u> and details can also be found on our school website: <u>pleckgate.com/uniform</u>; we ask that you refer to this regularly, particularly before purchasing any new items. A graphical overview also <u>attached</u> shows our specific requirements with regards to school uniform requirements.

## **Change to approved hairstyles**

Please note the change in our policy for September 2025. For pupils who have shoulder-length hair or longer, it is a requirement that pupils have their hair tied back at all times when in school. This is for a combination of safety (in practical lessons e.g. PE, Science and Technology), hygiene and to maintain a focused learning environment.

#### **PE Kit**

Pupils are permitted to wear their PE kits all day **only on the days they are timetabled to a PE lesson,** but blazers are still required to be worn. Please note that our PE kit has two tops that can be worn, a short sleeved and a long sleeved top. If your child chooses to wear the long sleeved top in colder weather, they can wear a navy blue t-shirt underneath, but this must not be visible under the PE kit.

#### **Equipment and Books**

Attached is a copy of the <u>equipment plan</u> which details the equipment each pupil is required to bring to school every day. Please make sure that your child is organised and well prepared for learning every day.

As we prepare for the new academic year, we are introducing a more consistent approach across the school to support pupils with the organisation and presentation of their work. From September, all pupils will be expected to use standard plastic exercise book covers to help protect their books and maintain high standards of presentation. This is especially important in the events of poor weather, which can result in pupils' books becoming wet. The covers help to reduce issues like this.

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Pupils in year 7, 8 and 9 will need:	Pupils in year 10 and 11 will need:
5 x A4 plastic covers	8 x A4 plastic covers
1 x A4+ plastic covers	3 x A4+ plastic covers
6 x A5 plastic covers	1 x A5 plastic covers
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These covers must be brought into school on the first day of the new term and used consistently in all lessons. We have made these items available to purchase via ParentPay, but parents may choose to buy them directly from Amazon or other retailers if that is more convenient. Full guidance, including recommended product types, is below:

A5 exercise book cover link A4 exercise book cover link A4+ exercise book cover link

This change is part of our ongoing drive to raise academic standards and ensure all pupils take pride in their work. Assemblies in September will introduce pupils to the expectations around presentation and organisation, reinforcing the message that good learning habits begin with how they look after their materials.

Thank you for your continued support and best wishes for an enjoyable summer break.

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A.M. McGuty

Headteacher