

OMAGH HIGH SCHOOL



SCHOOL UNIFORM POLICY

This policy aims to:

Ensure that all pupils and their parents/guardians understand what is expected and accepted by the School in terms of uniform and appearance;
Outline the steps that the School will take to ensure compliance with the policy;
Make clear the roles and responsibilities of all members of the school community in ensuring that the highest standards are upheld in respect of uniform and appearance.

Omagh High School's uniform promotes a sense of identity, equality, belonging, pride and unity in our school community. This policy sets out clear, fair, and affordable expectations, explains how we consult and review, and details reasonable adjustments for pupils' needs, including SEND and religious or cultural requirements. It aligns with Department of Education guidance and anticipated statutory guidelines on affordability, minimising branded items, transparency of costs, and accessibility. Our uniform also ensures that pupils from all backgrounds feel welcome, protecting children from social pressures to dress in a particular way, and promoting good relations between different groups of pupils. More than just clothing, our uniform is a symbol of our shared vision, values, mission, and ethos. It reflects our presence in the school community and fosters a sense of respect and responsibility, with students demonstrating their commitment to high standards and the positive culture that defines our school. In addition, our school uniform supports the Safeguarding Policy, making it easier to identify any individuals who should not be on school premises.

Key principles

Affordability & access: Costs must be manageable; branded items kept to a minimum; generic PE kit prioritised; multiple retail options, not one supplier. [education-ni.gov.uk], [nidirect.gov.uk]

Inclusion & equality: No discrimination; reasonable adjustments for disability, religion, culture and gender identity; actions guided by NI equality law (including Section 75 duties). [education-ni.gov.uk],

Clarity & consistency: Rules on shoes, socks/tights, jewellery, piercings, make-up/nail varnish and hair colour are explicit to avoid misunderstandings. [omagghighschool.org.uk]

Safety & practicality: Items must be safe and suited to school and PE activities; outerwear appropriate for NI seasons. [education-ni.gov.uk]

VISION – MISSION – VALUES – ETHOS

VISION:

Omagh High School will become the school of choice with outstanding provision of “pastoral CARE AND EDUCATION.”

MISSION:

Omagh High School will provide outstanding care to all the stakeholders within the organisation through bespoke/personalised programmes of pastoral care and wellbeing for the learners and the employees. This will bring confidence and safety to all, leading to educational excellence.

Omagh High School will deliver an outstanding educational experience for all. This will happen by encouraging the professional development of all staff so that their skills and knowledge transcends excellence during the educational process.

VALUES:

CARE: We believe in a harmonious community, underpinned by the values of respect, honesty and kindness, act as a civilising influence for all. We aim for safe, healthy and happy school – a school that pupils love and in which they openly speak about feeling loved.

EDUCATION: We set ambitious goals for our pupils regardless of background or prior attainment, believing in the limitless potential for all – that all can achieve excellence through finding the right steps to get there. Through offering a broad and balanced curriculum, combined with outstanding teaching, we want all pupils to draw inspiration from all that has been thought, said and done. We want our pupils to experience wonder at the cultural and physical world that surrounds them. We challenge and encourage them to set their sights high in whatever fields they choose to pursue.

OUTSTANDING PROVISION: Omagh High School exists to serve the unique academic, physical, spiritual, social and emotional needs of pupils who are in a special and critical period of their lives as they change from childhood, through adolescence, to adulthood. The school is committed to the development of ALL the pupils whatever their abilities. We aim to encourage in our pupils:

A curious mind

A thirst for learning

An industrious attitude to their work

A respect for others

A respect for self

High personal moral standards based on a Christian understanding of the world

The acquisition of skills necessary for future progress.

Omagh High School House System

The system forms a central part of the school's pastoral structure. There are three Houses as follows:

- Auchinleck (colour red)
- Crevenagh (colour green)
- Strule (colour blue).

The background to these names is reflected in the school badge which has three images, a garrison, a sheaf of wheat and a fish.



A **garrison**: Omagh was a garrison town for many years and has a long association with the Armed forces. The forces were stationed at the Lisanelly and St Lucia barracks in the town and over the years many children from the Armed Forces families attended Omagh High School. Auchinleck was the family name of a nearby local landowner for many years. Their home is built very close to the school grounds. The family have a strong military tradition, and many members of the family have served with great courage and distinction. The theme for this house is **'service with courage'** and those pupils belonging to this house will be encouraged to emulate the ideals of selfless courage and dedication exemplified by members of the Auchinleck family in their military service.

A **sheaf of wheat**: This is reflective of the importance of agriculture to the local economy. Many pupils come from farming backgrounds and there is a deep appreciation for the traditions and endeavour of members of the farming community and an appreciation for the environment amongst these children. We would seek to extend this to all members of this house. The theme for this house is **'honest endeavour'** reflecting the hard work of our farming community and the importance of their labour for all of us. The school is built on the Crevenagh Road and the school grounds and surrounding land, though now urban, would have been farmland of local landowners. Part of the school grounds contained an orchard for a local landowner. This house will be named Crevenagh.

A **fish**: This alludes to the main rivers of the town of Omagh. A number of rivers flow into and around Omagh. Two of the main rivers are the Camowen and the Drumragh. These two rivers, combine downstream to form the Strule River. The river, like many provincial towns, has been the lifeblood of the town of Omagh since its inception. The strength of the River Strule comes from the combining of the two feeder rivers and the theme of this house is **'strength in unity'** urging its members to foster an appreciation for teamwork and cooperation and to remember how much can be achieved when all work together for the common good. This house will be named Strule after the river.

The House system has been the basis for the Pastoral Groupings from September 2012.

Pupils are divided into the three houses and 'registration time' is also 'house time' with pupils meeting in their houses at least three mornings per week. Staff will also be allocated to the houses with the exception of the Principal, Vice Principals and SENCo. The pastoral structure will be:

Taken together, the three House themes are to be commended to all pupils:

"Success can be defined as and achieved through honest endeavour, serving others with courage and working together for the common good".

In summary "service, endeavour, honesty, cooperation".

Core Uniform (Years 8–14)

Note: Colours and crest specifics should match the current OHS uniform information; the school publishes updates and downloads on its Uniform page. [omaghhighschool.org.uk]

It is Omagh High School's policy that all pupils should wear the school uniform in a neat, clean and tidy fashion. Every item of clothing should be clearly labelled with the pupil's name.

Parents are encouraged to check the general appearance of their children each morning, in compliance with the following regulations. Non regulation items of clothing will be confiscated and may only be collected by a parent during office hours.

Boys' Uniform

1. Outdoor coat should be either a long or short black raincoat to be worn over school blazer. **Hoodies and other coats must not be worn to and from school.**
2. A black blazer with the school crest must be worn.
3. Only the recognised school scarf and school hat may be worn as outdoor clothing only. It should not be worn in the summer term.
4. Black school shoes as per Omagh High School guidance sheet. (Trainers, canvas or white soled shoes are not permitted). Grey or black socks.
5. White shirt (top button must be fastened) with school tie approximately 30 cm. Clip on ties compulsory for all pupils Year 8 to Year 12.
6. Mid-grey trousers. Belts must be black and simple in design.
7. Mid-grey, 'V' necked, long-sleeved jumper.
8. Garments worn under shirt must be white.

Girls' Uniform

1. Outdoor coat should be either a long or short black raincoat to be worn over school blazer. **Hoodies and other coats must not be worn to and from school.**
2. A black blazer with the school crest must be worn.
3. Only the recognised school scarf and school hat may be worn as outdoor clothing only. It should not be worn in the summer term.
4. Black school shoes as per Omagh High School guidance sheet. (Trainers, canvas or white soled shoes are not permitted). White socks or black tights.
5. Black tights to be worn with skirts from 1 November – Easter, or all year-round. Knee length white socks may be worn during the months of September and October as well as the summer term. This may be extended, at the discretion of the principal, during very warm weather. Grey socks to be worn with school trousers.
6. Mid-grey school regulation pleated skirt of modest length (no more than 10cm above the knee).
7. Mid-grey trousers. (Only one approved school style)
8. White shirt (top button must be fastened) with school tie approximately 30 cm. Clip on ties compulsory for all pupils Year 8 to Year 12.
9. Garments worn under shirt must be white.
10. Mid-grey, 'V' necked long-sleeved jumper. (Not a cardigan).

HAIR, MAKE-UP AND JEWELLERY FOR ALL PUPILS

1. Hair should be clean, tidy, of a conventional style and one natural colour and be tied back at all times if it is shoulder length or longer. It should also not cover a pupil's face or eyes. Any hair accessories must be discreet.
2. Make up, nail varnish, false/gel nails are not permitted. False eyelashes are not permitted.
3. Badges must be confined to **school** badges e.g. House, Prefect, Librarian and one charity badge.
4. Only one pair of small plain gold or silver studs may be worn, one in each lower ear lobe. No facial jewellery including tongue piercing is permitted. A basic watch may be worn. For safety reasons no other jewellery is permitted.
5. Pupils should be clean shaven at all times (even when on educational trips or study days). • Pupils are not permitted to have any form of visible tattoo. The tattooing of any person under the age of 18 is an offence under the Tattooing of Minors (Northern Ireland) Order 1979 and could lead to the prosecution of the tattooist.

Rationale for a Bespoke Physical Education (PE) Kit

The school has adopted a bespoke Physical Education (PE) kit in order to support high standards, inclusivity, and student wellbeing, while reinforcing the school's ethos and identity.

A standardised, school-designed PE kit promotes a strong sense of belonging and pride among students by reflecting the school's values, colours, and identity. It ensures that all students present themselves in a consistent and professional manner, both within lessons and when representing the school in fixtures and external events.

The bespoke PE kit has been selected to meet the practical demands of physical activity. Materials and design features have been chosen to ensure comfort, durability, and suitability for a range of indoor and outdoor activities, thereby supporting full participation and reducing barriers to engagement in PE. The policy also promotes equality and inclusion. By requiring a consistent PE kit, the school seeks to minimise visible socio-economic differences and ensure that all students have access to appropriate, safe, and functional sportswear. Consideration has been given to inclusivity in design, including options that respect cultural, religious, and personal needs.

In addition, a bespoke PE kit allows the school to work closely with suppliers to ensure value for money and long-term affordability for families. This approach supports cost control, ensures consistency in supply, and reduces the need for frequent replacement.

The use of a standardised PE kit also supports safeguarding procedures. It enables staff to easily identify students during lessons, educational visits, and inter-school activities, thereby contributing to the safety and supervision of pupils.

Finally, adherence to the PE kit policy reinforces the school's expectations regarding preparedness, participation, and behaviour. Wearing the correct kit supports a disciplined and focused learning environment and ensures that all students are ready to engage safely and effectively in physical education.

Boys' PE/Games Kit

Compulsory Items

1. Black Polo or Rugby shirt with school crest (Kukri)
2. Rugby shorts with school crest (Kukri)
3. Socks (Black & White) (Kukri), or plain black knee length sports socks
4. Trainers (suitable for Astroturf)
5. Football boots
6. Shinpads
7. Mouthguard

Optional Items

1. Quarter zip top with school crest (Kukri)
2. Tracksuit bottoms (Black) (Kukri) or plain black tracksuit bottoms
3. Thermal underlayer top (Black)

Girls PE/Games Kit

Compulsory Items

1. Black Polo shirt with school crest (Kukri) Compulsory for Years 8&9. Optional for years 10–14 otherwise previous white polo shirt with school crest (Kukri)
2. PE Skort with school crest (Kukri)
3. Socks (Black & White) (Kukri), or plain black knee length sports socks
4. Trainers (suitable for Astroturf)
5. Shinpads
6. Mouthguard

Optional Items

1. Quarter zip top with school crest (Kukri)
2. Tracksuit bottoms (Black) (Kukri) or plain tracksuit bottoms
3. Thermal underlayer top (Black)

Mouthguards are an essential requirement for both boys and girls.

The wearing of school uniform helps to foster a pride in the school. Pupils must be conscious of the fact that whilst in uniform they are representatives of their school and should conduct themselves in an appropriate manner at all times.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Pupils

This policy has been created following extensive consultation with the pupils of the school. Therefore, pupils must ensure that they understand:

- The correct uniform items to be worn;
- The correct way in which uniform is to be worn;
- What is/is not acceptable to the School in terms of pupil appearance.

Pupils should ensure that they are fully aware of the Uniform Policy.

If a pupil is unsure about whether a planned change to their appearance will be acceptable to the school, it is their responsibility to seek clarification from their Pastoral Leader (PL) in the first instance.

Prefects hold positions of responsibility and are role models to other pupils in the school and therefore their uniform and appearance should be immaculate.

Parents/Guardians

Parents/Guardians Parental co-operation is indispensable in ensuring that pupils present themselves suitably for school, in keeping with our regulations. Therefore, the School would ask for parental support in promoting the importance of uniform and appearance.

Parents and guardians are asked to familiarise themselves with the Uniform Policy before purchasing items of uniform for their child/ward. Parents/guardians should contact School (PL in the first instance) if they have questions or queries regarding any aspect of school uniform or appearance.

Pupils seeking temporary permission to wear to school some article of clothing that does not conform with the regulations e.g. if clothing has been damaged, should bring a note from home to their PL. The PL will countersign the note and - inform school staff of the arrangement.

All articles of clothing and games equipment should be clearly marked with the owner's name. This is especially important with training shoes and other items of P.E. equipment.

Financial support towards uniform costs is available from the Education Authority (EA). All parents/carers seeking to apply for this are required to apply on-line via the EA website: <https://www.eani.org.uk/financial-help/free-school-meals-uniform-grants>

The allowance is open to parents/carers whose child/children attend a school in Northern Ireland and who receive one of the following benefits:

- Income Support;
- Income Based Jobseeker's Allowance;
- Income Related Employment and Support Allowance;
- Guarantee Element of State Pension Credit;
- Child Tax Credit or Working Tax Credit with an annual taxable household income of £16,190 or less;
- Universal Credit with net household earnings not exceeding £15,000 per year; or
- If you are an Asylum Seeker supported by the Home Office Asylum Support Assessment Team (ASAT); or
- If your child has a statement of special educational needs and is designated to require a special diet.

Staff

All staff will ensure that the School's expected standard is always upheld in respect of uniform and appearance, and will challenge a pupil if they feel that an aspect of the pupil's uniform and/or appearance falls outside of the expectations of the School.

Regular uniform checks will take place under the direction of the HT/PL/SENIOR TEACHER.

Pupils will be reminded regularly of what is expected and accepted in terms of pupil uniform and appearance during Form/Year Assemblies.

Staff must ensure that during practical sessions in Science, Home Economics, PE and Technology, long hair MUST BE FULLY TIED BACK to avoid accident or injury.

REPRESENTING THE SCHOOL.

The wearing of the school uniform or school sports kit identifies pupils as representatives of OHS.

When in uniform or school sports kit, all pupils are ambassadors of the school. This includes travelling to and from school and attending events or fixtures when wearing school uniform or school sports kit. It is important that our pupils always look and behave appropriately. The support of parents/guardians in this regard is appreciated.

ENSURING COMPLIANCE WITH THE POLICY

If, for any reason, a short-term deviation from the Uniform Policy is required (e.g. due to an injury), a written request should be made to the pupil's PL by their parent/guardian. Any longer-term deviation from the Uniform Policy will be considered in exceptional circumstances and parents/guardians are asked to communicate, in writing, to their child's PL in the first instance.

Individualism and self-expression are not deemed by the school as an acceptable reasons to not adhere to the Uniform Policy.

Any pupil who does not uphold the standards and expectations of the School as laid out in this policy will have sanctions applied in line with our Positive Behaviour Policy.

However, relevant adjustments to reflect either religious or cultural beliefs, or individual needs, may also be permitted through direct consultation with the School.

Exceptional circumstances will be at the discretion of the Principal. OHS reserves the right to issue further guidance on uniform and appearance to pupils and parents/carers during the school year.

CHARITY DAYS – UNIFORM ITEMS

On occasions, pupils in school are allowed to wear AN ITEM of clothing other than the school uniform. This may include specific charity days to raise money and awareness for charities, or as a reward, or during a school trip. Whilst this allows pupils the opportunity to express themselves as individuals, it must be done in a way which is appropriate. It is particularly important that pupils recognise that the School is a professional working environment, and that pupil dress should not cause embarrassment or offence to other pupils or to members of staff. The following items are prohibited:

- See-through clothing.
- Spaghetti strap top.
- Shorts, skorts or skirts.
- Clothing which reveals underwear.
- Flip-flops or backless footwear, due to health and safety issues.
- Clothing with offensive logos.
- Sporting tops.

It is recognised that this will not cover all issues which may arise. However, given any issue of dispute, the final arbiter is the Principal OR one of the Vice-Principals.

ACTION BY THE SCHOOL

The regulations about uniform will be enforced and pupils who infringe them and will have sanctions applied in line with our Positive Behaviour Policy. Those who are in any doubt about the interpretation of the regulations should consult their PL before buying new clothes or footwear for school.

Prices for each bespoke item of school uniform, from each of our suppliers, can be found on the next page. As in any competitive market, this has been useful to reduce prices for several items.

Uniform Price list as of Spring 2026

Waterson's Omagh

Blazer: Size 6-16yrs - £44.00
Size 17-24yrs - £60.00

Tie: £8.50 - £8.95

Boys' PE
Polo Shirt: £26.95 - £29.95
Shorts: £17.95 - £19.95
Socks: £8.95 - £9.95

Girls' PE
Polo Shirt: £26.95 - £29.95
Skort: £26.95
Socks: £8.95 - £9.95

Select Kidz Omagh

Blazer: Size 6-16yrs - £54.99
Size 17-24yrs - £60.99

Tie: £6.50

Boys' PE
Polo Shirt: £26.95 - £29.95
Shorts: £17.95 - £19.95
Socks: £8.95 - £9.95

Girls' PE
Polo Shirt: £26.95 - £29.95
Skort: £26.95
Socks: £8.95 - £9.95

Non bespoke items such as school trousers, jumpers, skirts, shirts, and shoes can be purchased from multiple retailers as they are not bespoke. Please be aware these will vary in quality and pricing. Please refer to the core uniform list for style, colour and guidance on what is required.

Typical price range for non-bespoke/generic items of school clothing as of Spring 2026, many of which can be purchased in multi pack form:

Boys - Mid-grey trousers: £5.00 - £30.00 (available in multi packs)
White long sleeve shirts: £6.50 - £30.00 (available in multi packs)
Grey/Black socks - £3.00 - £5.00 (available in multi packs)
Mid-grey, 'V' necked, long-sleeved jumper: £7.00 - £30.00 (available in multi packs)
Black school shoes as per Omagh High School guidance sheet. (Trainers, canvas or white soled shoes are not permitted) - £8.00 - £40.00
PE - Shin guards: £5.00 - £12.00
PE - Mouth guards: £3.00 - £15.00
PE – Trainers: £15.00 - £30.00
PE – Football boots: £15.00 - £30.00

Girls - Mid-grey, 'V' necked, long-sleeved jumper: £7.00 - £30.00 (available in multi packs)
White long sleeve shirts: £6.50 - £30.00 (available in multi packs)
Mid-grey school regulation pleated skirt of modest length (no more than 10cm above the knee) - £6.00 - £35.00 (available in multi packs)
White knee length socks - £1.20 - £5.00 (available in multi packs)
Mid-grey trousers: £5.00 - £30.00 (available in multi packs)
Black tights - £2.50 - £12.00 (available in multi packs)
Black school shoes as per Omagh High School guidance sheet. (Trainers, canvas or white soled shoes are not permitted) - £8.00 - £40.00
PE - Shin guards: £5.00 - £12.00
PE - Mouth guards: £3.00 - £15.00
PE – Trainers: £15.00 - £30.00

Please note that prices are subject to change and vary in price dependant on supplier/retailer. To assist in terms of what uniform items are acceptable and how they should be worn, please refer to appendix 1 for clarification.

Appendix 1:

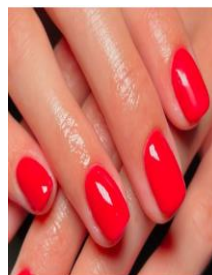
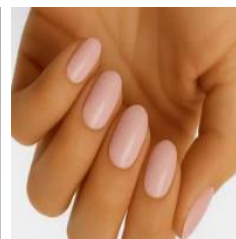
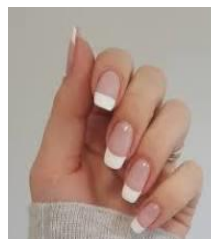
CLARIFICATION OF HAIR, MAKE-UP AND JEWELLERY FOR ALL PUPILS

2. Make up, nail varnish, false/gel nails are not permitted. False eyelashes are not permitted.

ALLOWED



NOT ALLOWED

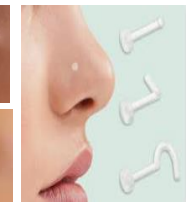
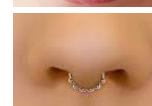
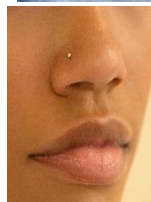
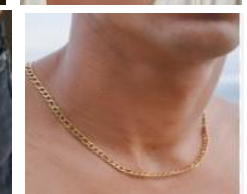
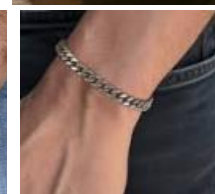
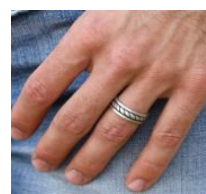
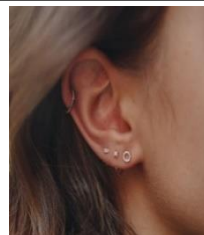


4. Only one pair of small plain gold or silver studs may be worn, one in each lower ear lobe. No facial jewellery including tongue piercing is permitted. A basic watch may be worn. For safety reasons no other jewellery is permitted.

ALLOWED



NOT ALLOWED



FOOTWEAR REGULATIONS FOR BOYS

- Shoes should be flat **plain black** polished leather.
- They may lace up, slip on or have Velcro fastening however they must be in the traditional school style.
- Canvas, suede, nu-buck or 'fashion' shoes are not permitted.
- Soles must be black.
- Trainer type shoes and boots are not permitted.

If in doubt, parents should contact school BEFORE purchasing shoes.

Examples of Acceptable Footwear for Girls



Examples of Unacceptable Footwear for Girls



- Shoes should be flat **plain black** polished leather.
- They may lace up, slip on or have Velcro fastening however they must be in the traditional school style.
- Canvas, suede, nu-buck or 'fashion' shoes are not permitted.
- Soles must be black.
- Trainer type shoes and boots are not permitted.

If in doubt, parents should contact school BEFORE purchasing shoes.

Examples of Acceptable Footwear for Boys



Examples of Unacceptable Footwear for Boys

