



UNIFORM

Dear Parents and Carers,

Our school uniform plays a big part in the pride that we have in ourselves and our school and it is very significant in influencing how others view us. We are working hard to ensure that every single member of our Ballakermeen family feels a strong sense of belonging and our uniform will play a big part in celebrating this sense of togetherness.

We believe that it is important that we are clear in setting and maintaining the highest standards in all that we do at Ballakermeen so that every one of us, staff, families and students, can share in the pride of being a member of our special and unique community.

In reviewing the Ballakermeen uniform expectations we have been keen to balance the need for appropriate and safe items of clothing alongside ensuring that various options are accessible, affordable, and acceptable to meet our shared expectations.

There follows a description of the items that comprise our school uniform and sports kit. The only compulsory branded items are the BHS tie and the BHS polo shirt. Items not specified need not be BHS branded.

Please look carefully at the descriptions and check with us before making a purchase if you are at all unsure about any item. This is particularly important in relation to **school shoes** and **skirts**. Shoes should be comfortable and protective for students to wear all day in school. Footwear should be all black with no visible logos. Covering logos with tape or marker pens is equally not acceptable. Skirts should not be of contour/stretch/lycra material. Skirts should be of an appropriate length. We hope that this information is clear so that the wasted expense of purchasing inappropriate schoolwear for the new school year is avoided. Please contact us in school prior to purchasing any school shoes or other uniform if you require any further clarification.

Any student who chooses to wear clothing or footwear that does not meet the standards described here and on our website will be expected to make necessary changes in order to do so. Parents/carers will be contacted to inform them of any issues and we thank you in anticipation of your support.

We appreciate that at times families may experience financial hardship. In such cases, confidential requests for support will be considered sympathetically.

We look forward to seeing all our students sharing in the joy of being a Ballakermeen student and wearing our uniform with pride both in school, when competing against other schools and when out and about in our community.

Yours sincerely,

Graeme Corrin
Head Teacher

UNIFORM FOR YEARS 7 - 11



This is the uniform we expect:

- Navy blue or black, plain school trousers (for all years) of a suitable, formal design. Skinny trousers, leggings, jeans, or any other non-formal trouser styles are not acceptable. Navy blue/black tailored shorts are allowed.

OR

- Navy blue or black, plain or pleated school uniform skirt. Please ensure that the skirt is of an appropriate length and is a formal school skirt - not lycra or tight fitting
- White shirt with collar suitable for wearing a tie
- BHS school tie
- Navy school blazer (BHS badge available)
- Plain, black, smart shoes with no obvious logo
- Plain navy or black socks, or black tights
- Jumper (optional) - navy, plain V-necked. Hooded tops are not permitted
- Students will be provided with a lanyard to hold their smartcard. This is part of school uniform.

We advise that all uniform is clearly named.



Personal appearance:

The following are permitted:

- A plain ring that can be worn on one hand
- Years 10 and 11 are allowed a minimal amount of concealing foundation discreetly applied
- One small plain stud worn in either or both ears (no hooped earrings)
- One small stud worn in nose
- Any other piercings should be removed or covered
- Years 10 and 11 can wear a single colour of nail varnish
- Extremes of hairstyle are not allowed (if in doubt, please ask in advance)

For reasons of health and safety:

- Jewellery must be removed during P.E. lessons
- Long hair must always be tied back/up in all lessons when practical activities take place
- Long natural or acrylic nails must be cut to a safe length to avoid injury

SCHOOL P.E. KIT

All students are required to have the following P.E. Kit for their lessons. The navy blue Ballakermeen polo shirt is the only compulsory branded item. All other items may be either plain or Ballakermeen branded. No other brands will be accepted. As long as students wear their Ballakermeen polo shirt on top, they may layer other clothing underneath.

- Navy blue Ballakermeen polo shirt (compulsory)
- Plain navy blue zipped top (optional) - no hoods
- Plain navy blue or black shorts/skort or leggings
- Navy blue football socks
- Training shoes
- Football boots/astro trainers (would be beneficial for some lessons but not compulsory)
- Swimming costume/short/trunks, goggles (optional)
- Towel

All kit must be clearly named.

Although not compulsory, we strongly advise that students wear the appropriate safety equipment for each activity e.g. shin-pads, gum shield, etc.



Purchasing Uniform:

Blazers, sweatshirts, and BHS branded polo shirts may be purchased from Promenade Shirts and Embroidery (PSE) Ltd:

www.promenadeschoolwear.com.

They also stock other non-branded kit, which may be bought from various other retailers. PSE can embroider the Ballakermeen logo onto other items if desired (only the branded polo shirt is compulsory).

We would recommend that orders placed with PSE are made by the end of May 2025 to ensure that they are able to order in bulk and collate in time for issue before the new school year in September.

Ordering from PSE Ltd:

www.promenadeschoolwear.com

- Choose the option for Ballakermeen High School and complete the online order form for payment by debit or credit card. These items can also be purchased in store in person.

There is no obligation to purchase a blazer or any non-compulsory item from PSE Ltd - any navy school blazer may be bought from various retailers, and Ballakermeen sell the BHS Logo embroidered sew-on badges (£3 each).

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

BOOKS AND EQUIPMENT

The minimum requirements are:

- A suitable bag for books and other equipment
- Pens and pencils, a ruler, an eraser, crayons or felt tips
- Student planner (supplied by school)
- Lockers will be available at a 'one off' cost of £5, subject to availability
- Compasses and protractors will be available in classrooms.
- Students are taught how to use the functions on a scientific calculator, as these skills will be needed for external exams. It would be beneficial to purchase a calculator. We recommend 'Casio' as this is the brand we use in school.

All students will have access to the library as well as the school's computers and printers for research and homework before, during, and after school.

Outdoor clothing:

Coats or outerwear must be removed whilst in the school building. All garments must be clearly marked with the owner's name so that they can be returned if lost. Parents are strongly advised not to send children to school in expensive coats as we regularly have a number of coats left in Lost Property, unclaimed by the students.

BHSA Uniform Swap Shop:

The BHSA Uniform Swap Shop runs at regular times during the year and is available for you to come along and pick up some 'good as new' donated and washed uniform for free. Members of the BHSA will staff the shop while it is open and be on hand to assist you find the items you need. Their Facebook group is updated to show when the next event is taking place, but if your need is urgent, please email:

ballahighschoolassoc@gmail.com



Purchasing Ties and Badges (In School):

Ballakermeen school ties and embroidered badges may be purchased via ParentPay (this facility will be available to new Year 7s at a later date).

Standard ties are £6.50; If ordered before 20th June, ties will be issued on Welcome Days for new Year 7 students.

Sew-on BHS logo embroidered badges are available to buy via ParentPay for £3.00.

Replacement lanyards can also be purchased from school at a cost of £1.

Ties, badges and replacement lanyards must be paid for through ParentPay, and can be collected from the foyer the following day, during school hours or during advertised school holiday hours.

SHOES & SKIRTS GUIDE: EXAMPLES

✓ ACCEPTABLE SCHOOL SHOES ✓



✗ UNACCEPTABLE SCHOOL SHOES ✗



✓ ACCEPTABLE SKIRTS ✓



✗ UNACCEPTABLE SKIRTS ✗

