

# CHRIST'S HOSPITAL

## STUDENT DRESS CODE

### Aim

1. The aim of this policy is to specify the regulations by which students are to wear uniform, sports clothing or their own clothes, in and around the School. It also covers the wearing of hair and jewellery.

### Introduction

2. The Housey uniform is one of the School's most cherished traditions. Wherever and whenever it is worn, it must be worn with pride and with care for its neatness and cleanliness. Every student plays a part in contributing to the smart appearance of the collective student body.

### School uniform

3. Students are expected to wear their full School uniform during the working day and at all formal School occasions (i.e. lessons, Chapel, breakfast, lunch, lectures, concerts). At all internal events where there are members of public, for example School theatre productions, Housey must be worn. This applies if the student is accompanied by family members. The wearing of uniform may also be specified by the Head Teacher for other important occasions, such as for a VIP visit to the School.
4. The Housey uniform consists of breeches for boys and skirts for girls. Students who wish to wear breeches instead of skirts, or vice versa, will be given permission by the Deputy Head, provided parents/guardians support this decision.
5. After lessons, students may change into their own clothes unless they are attending a formal occasion. These clothes should be clean and suitable for wearing at School. If a member of staff judges clothing to be unsuitable for a particular context, the student concerned may be required to return to their boarding house to change.
6. If students prefer to remain in Housey after lessons have finished for the day, they may substitute a Christ's Hospital crested sweatshirt, other School-issued sweatshirt or hoody (e.g. band/gospel choir/theatre production hoody) or plain navy blue or black sweatshirt or hoody for their housey coat or jacket. Housey items should not be worn in combination with other non-uniform items.
7. Students who have been given buckles by family members who are Old Blues may wear a maximum of three buckles in total on their broadies.
8. Students may wear a matching pair of small stud or 'sleeper' (very small hoop) earrings in the lower lobe of the ear, a plain ring on a finger, a wristwatch and one unobtrusive bracelet or wrist band. For safety reasons, no jewellery should be worn in games, PE lessons and in some practical subjects, for example Design and Technology.
9. Tongue studs or other facial piercings should not be worn.
10. Tattoos that would be visible with Housey are not allowed. It is against UK law for under 18-year-olds to be tattooed. Henna worn for traditional or cultural events and festivals outside school will be allowed to fade naturally on return. Suitable communication from parent/guardian to support the event should be presented to the Deputy Head.

11. Plain black DM-style shoes, without logos or coloured trims, must be worn with uniform. Plimsolls and trainers are not allowed.
12. Students may wear a religious head covering with their housey, such as a hijab or kippa. These should ideally be navy blue or black. Students may also wear a head covering for a documented medical reason.
13. Durags, bonnets and other head coverings may not be worn with Housey.
14. Scarves worn for warmth, hats and gloves should be in School colours or be plain navy or plain black. Scarves and hats must be removed in Chapel and when taking part in band parade. Hats must be removed in Dining Hall.
15. Junior students wear Christ's Hospital yellow socks with housey. Seniors wearing skirts may wear yellow socks or black tights or black pop socks, with the hem of the skirt falling below the top of the pop socks, for smartness.

### **“Half Housey”**

16. During spells of very hot weather, the Head Teacher may declare a period of “Half Housey”. This gives students the option to remove their Housey coat or jacket if they wish. Shirts must be tucked in, and sleeves should be rolled up neatly, above the elbow. Girdles/broadies are not worn with Half Housey. During band parade, each house must decide either to march in full uniform or in Half Housey, but not in a mixture of the two.

### **Sports' Kit**

17. When participating in any supervised sports activities, whether training or matches, students may wear either CH crested sports kit or plain navy blue items.

### **Hair**

18. The rules on hair are designed to ensure that, when gathered together for band parade or for other formal events, students' collective appearance is smart. Hair should be clean and tidy. When wearing uniform, students with long hair, below shoulder length, should tie it back or up using a black or dark blue band or dark clip. Beads worn on braids should be gold, silver or black; no other hair ornaments should be used. Fades and graded shaving must be even on both sides of the head; asymmetric shaved areas are not allowed. Dyed hair and/or hair extensions or braids should be natural shades (brown, black, blonde, ginger, auburn), not unnatural colours (purple, scarlet, blue etc.). No distinct colour blocks are allowed, and colours should be reasonably uniform in shade. Students' hair should not be longer than waist-length when tied up or back in a ponytail.
19. Christ's Hospital has adopted the Halo Code to help to ensure that no member of the School community faces barriers of judgement because of their hair: [Halo-School \(halocollective.co.uk\)](http://halocollective.co.uk)
20. Make up worn with uniform must be minimal/'nude', and products that cause discolouration to shirts and bands, such as certain types of moisturizer, are to be avoided. Coloured nail varnish, whilst wearing uniform, is not allowed. False eyelashes should not be worn with uniform.

### **Facial hair**

21. Students must be free of facial hair, unless a documented medical condition is an underlying or facial hair forms part of a religious practice, in line with a student's practised faith.

### **Dress in Dining Hall**

22. The following dress is required in Dining Hall:
- for breakfast from Monday to Saturday – School uniform. Junior students who have participated in house steeplechase practice before breakfast may attend breakfast in sports kit.
  - for lunch from Monday to Saturday – School uniform.
  - for tea every day and at brunch on Sunday – own clothes.
23. Students' own clothes worn in the Dining Hall must be of a suitable standard. Slogans or images that are likely to cause offence, including swear words, are not allowed. Students who feel unsure about whether an item of dress is suitable for Dining Hall should seek guidance from their houseparents in the first instance. It should be noted that:
- hats and caps should not be worn in Dining Hall and hoods should be put down; headscarves, bonnets and durags may be worn with own clothes;
  - appropriate footwear should be worn;
  - clean sports kit is acceptable.

### **Reminder**

24. The definition of a suitable standard is at the discretion of staff, and students are expected to comply with staff's instructions on dress. If a student is concerned about a ruling made by a member of staff, they should raise the matter with their houseparent at the next opportunity.

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