



Backwell School

An Ofsted Outstanding School
A National Teaching School

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Dear Parents/Carers

Physical Education Equipment

I am writing to clarify what is expected of students in terms of PE equipment.

The School Handbook lists (on page 11) the compulsory and recommended items required for PE. Although the majority of students always wear the correct PE kit, there are a number of girls who do not. Clearly, this causes difficulties for all concerned, but particularly when students are representing the school at sports fixtures. As ambassadors for the school, it is important that they present as a cohesive squad of sports women rather than a group of girls wearing various items of clothing.

In addition to the information given in the Handbook, I would like to reiterate the following:

- No grey or navy clothing should be worn.
- No school uniform to be worn for PE lessons.
- No tights should be worn, for health and hygiene reasons.
- No Nike Pro style shorts; all shorts should reach mid-thigh. Black shorts are available to purchase online from Price and Buckland.
- Girls can choose to wear black sports leggings if they wish. These should not be black cotton fashion leggings.
- Shin pads and football boots are essential (for Years 7, 8 and 9 lessons in Spring Term).
- Earrings must not be worn during team game activities for health and safety reasons (please wait until the summer holidays if your daughter wishes to have her ears pierced).
- If students are excused from physically participating in PE lessons, they are still expected to change into PE kit and take on a coaching or umpiring role within the lesson.
- If girls are representing the school at fixtures, or their house for house matches, they must wear a black skirt or mid-thigh shorts.

May I ask you to ensure that your daughter is aware of the school's requirements and recommendations and that she has the correct PE kit available for lessons in school and for PE fixtures.

Thank you for your support in this matter.

Yours sincerely

R Fowkes
Acting Head of Girls' PE