

CLOTHING THAT IS UNACCEPTABLE IN SCHOOLS

The general guideline in this respect is that clothing is unacceptable if it could disrupt the normal operation of the school or cause damage or injury or give offence.

The following categories of clothing are unacceptable in schools:

- clothing which could cause health and safety problems for the wearer (e.g. clothes that are flammable; certain types of ear-rings)
- footwear which could cause damage to the flooring or carpets
- clothes which could lead to indiscipline (e.g. scarves or tops representing sports teams other than the school's)
- clothing with words or pictures on them which could give offence to others
- clothing which is so tight, short or revealing that it could give offence to others
- clothing which advertises the use of alcohol, tobacco or other drugs

Parents of pupils who wear any of the above items in school will be asked to arrange for the pupil to wear suitable clothing. Schools may withdraw pupils from school excursions (for example) if they are unsuitably dressed. In extreme cases, a pupil may be sent home to change.

SCHOOL DRESS CODE

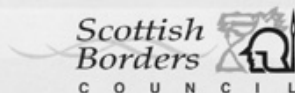
FOOTWEAR AND CLOTHING GRANTS

Parents in receipt of Income Support or Family Credit may apply to the Council for assistance towards the cost of school clothing and footwear.

The school clothing and footwear grant must be spent on the purchase of clothing that complies with the school's dress code. It is not for other, more casual wear.

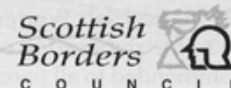
The address to write to for the application form is:

Director of Education,
Scottish Borders Council,
Newtown St. Boswells,
Melrose TD6 OSA
(Or ask at the school office)



SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL SCHOOLS WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH PARENTS AND STUDENTS

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SCHOOL DRESS CODE

INFORMATION LEAFLET FOR PARENTS
OR GUARDIANS OF SCHOOL PUPILS



This leaflet provides a summary for parents of the main points of Council policy on school dress codes

John Christie, Director of Education, SBC

In September, 1998, Scottish Borders Council gave official approval to the publication of a School Dress Code which is commended to all parents. It is Council policy that all pupils in all schools in the authority should dress in away which

- is acceptable for attendance at school
- is in line with the school's guidelines
- encourages pupils to have a sense of belonging and pride in their school
- takes account of health and safety requirements

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF A SCHOOL DRESS CODE ?

Scottish Borders Council believes that there are many advantages for pupils, for schools and for parents in having a clear dress code.

These advantages include:

- encouraging a sense of belonging and pride in the school
- encouraging a purposeful attitude to school work and extra-curricular activities
- enhancing the image of the school in the community
- discouraging competition between pupils (regarding designer wear, for example)
- discouraging bullying and victimisation which may arise from pupils not having certain clothing or footwear
- improving safety in the classroom and in practical areas such as science labs
- improving school security through easy identification of intruders
- improving security on excursions through the easy identification of pupils

SUPPORT FROM PARENTS

Scottish Borders Council hopes that all parents will be aware of the advantages of the Council dress code for school pupils and that all parents will do their best to support this code for the benefit of all the pupils in our schools. The benefits for successful teaching and learning will be felt by all



COMMUNICATION WITH SCHOOL

On any day when a pupil is unable to wear suitable school clothing, the parent is asked to provide a note explaining the reasons or to phone before 9 a.m. and leave a message.

SCHOOL POLICIES

Schools will promote and encourage the wearing of school dress by all pupils by working closely with parents, pupils and School Board. Schools will remind pupils and parents of school rules on dress through assemblies, newsletters and the school handbook.

When a pupil is unwilling to comply with the school dress code, schools may adopt the following procedures:

- ask the pupil to comply with the dress code
- contact parents by letter or by telephone
- invite parents to the school to discuss the dress code
- ask the parents to notify the school in advance when other clothing is to be worn

Any parent who wishes to discuss the policy with either the Headteacher or the Director of Education should do so in the normal way by contacting the school office or SBC offices (Tel: 01835 824000)