

PE DRESS CODE

Approved: Governing Body Education Committee

Updated: June 2025

Belper School and Sixth Form Centre PE Department Dress Code and Kit Policy

1. PE Kit

Expectations

Students must bring and wear the correct PE kit to every lesson. This supports hygiene, ensures safe physical activity, and protects the clothing students wear to school. The kit is unisex, and students may choose items they feel most comfortable wearing. All items can be purchased from our approved kit supplier, Loop Wear. Unbranded items may also be purchased from other retailers if they meet the correct colour and style requirements outlined in our policy.

Belper PE Department 'Approved' Kit List:

Essential 'Core' Kit Items (all items are unisex)			
Royal blue T-shirt or polo shirt	Royal blue rugby shirt or sweatshirt	Plain black shorts	Long plain black socks
Suitable training shoes	Shin pads	1 piece swimming costume and towel	Drinks bottle with name on it
Optional Additional Items (dependent on conditions or activity being studied)			
Plain black base layer or under armour	Warm hat & gloves	Baseball cap and sports sunglasses	Swimming goggles/cap/rash vest
Plain black tracksuit bottoms or leggings	Specialist footwear eg. football boots/running spikes	Short white or black socks	Mouth guard and grip gloves

Students on GCSE PE, Sports Studies, or Sports Leadership courses may wear school-issued bespoke kit. Examples of this include a Sports Leadership t-shirt or hoodie. Students are encouraged to wear these items at events but may also wear them for any PE lesson as their PE kit, in lieu of the 'core' kit items. These items are ordered directly through the school using Parent Pay and are optional.

Help to Meet Expectations

If sourcing kit is difficult, parents or carers should contact the PE department. Where possible, support will be offered confidentially and respectfully.

Failure to Meet Expectations

If a student forgets kit, they will be offered freshly laundered spare kit from the PE department, where available. Refusal to wear it will mean the student cannot take part, which will be addressed in line with the behaviour policy. Repeated failure to bring kit without a valid reason will result in escalating consequences.

2. Footwear

Expectations

All students must wear secure, appropriate footwear for PE. This includes supportive training shoes and specialist footwear where needed (e.g. football boots, spikes). The following are not permitted due to safety concerns: sliders, crocs, open footwear, UGG-style or heavy boots, or shoes with heels.

Help to Meet Expectations

Spare footwear may be provided where possible. Students with concerns about suitable footwear should speak to a member of the PE team.

Failure to Meet Expectations

If a student arrives in unsafe or unsuitable footwear, they will be offered a clean and appropriate replacement where available. Refusal to wear them will mean the student cannot take part and the matter will be followed up in line with the behaviour policy.

3. Health & Safety (Jewellery, Hair, Hygiene)

Expectations

To maintain safety during PE:

- All jewellery and piercings must be removed before lessons there are no exceptions.
- Long hair must be tied back securely so that it is unable to cover the face with a suitable hair tie, bandana or headband.
- Grip socks are not permitted for barefoot activities on wooden floors as they are not designed for this kind of surface.

To avoid upset at having to remove new piercings for PE, any new piercings should ideally be done at the start of summer holidays to allow for six weeks' healing before term starts. No exemption for removing piercings will be given during healing time. Piercings are a personal choice and cannot be used as an exemption from PE lessons.

Help to Meet Expectations

Spare hair ties may be available if needed. Students and families can seek advice from staff on safety requirements.

Failure to Meet Expectations

Students who cannot or will not meet safety standards (e.g. removing jewellery or tying back hair) will not be permitted to participate for health and safety reasons. This will be addressed under the behaviour policy. Repeated failure to meet safety standards will result in escalating consequences.

4. Medical Needs and Participation

Expectations

If a student cannot take part due to illness or injury:

- A signed note from a parent or carer must be provided at the start of each lesson.
- For absences longer than two weeks, medical evidence in the form of a GP letter, referral letter or diagnosis letter from the NHS should be provided.

Students who are not taking part in the PE lesson should still:

- Wear their PE kit (unless in a cast or on crutches).
- Attend the lesson and participate in a non-physical role.

Emails or texts on the day are not accepted, as staff may not receive them on time.

Help to Meet Expectations

PE staff will use professional judgement to adapt the student's role in lessons when needed. We encourage families to communicate early if a longer absence is expected.

Failure to Meet Expectations

Students without a note will be expected to take part. Ongoing unexplained absences or refusal to engage may be escalated in line with the school's behaviour policy.