



# ***KING EDWARD VI HANDSWORTH SCHOOL***

*Rose Hill Road Handsworth Birmingham B21 9AR*

---

Telephone: Office 0121 554 2342

Fax: 0121 554 3879

Email: [office@kingedwardvi.bham.sch.uk](mailto:office@kingedwardvi.bham.sch.uk)

[www.kingedwardvi.bham.sch.uk](http://www.kingedwardvi.bham.sch.uk)

Registered Charity No: 529051

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> June 2011

Dear Parent/Guardian,

King Edward VI Handsworth is an outstanding school and we set the very highest expectations for all of our students in order to maintain our position as one of the best schools in the country. As a result, we are constantly looking for new and innovative ways to drive standards further forward and better prepare our girls for the future.

At King Edward VI Handsworth, the vast majority of our Sixth Form students obtain the top grades at A-level, go on to the very best universities in the country and gain top positions in a variety of distinguished professions. Thus, we believe that our students should be dressed for success and their attire should reflect their attitude towards learning and their work ethic. Furthermore, we believe that our Sixth Form students are role models to the younger pupils in the school. Pupils in Key Stages 3 and 4 look up to our Year 12 and 13 students and aspire to be like them. It is for this reason that we feel that our Sixth Form students need to set the very best example and this includes the way they are dressed.

Students who adhere to a certain dress code often feel that it promotes a sense of belonging, group spirit and professionalism whilst easing the strain on family budgets by eliminating the relationship between dress and school status and by de-emphasizing socioeconomic differences. As a result, from 5<sup>th</sup> September 2011, our Sixth Form students will be required to adhere to a Sixth Form dress code. This dress code will consist of a black, dark navy or dark grey business suit. This may be a trouser suit (full length trousers) or a skirt suit (knee length or full length for religious observance). A blouse or smart top and flat or low heeled shoes of the student's choice but appropriate for school should be worn. Please see the enclosed Sixth Form Dress Code for further information. We feel, at King Edward VI Handsworth, that this attire reflects the modern business woman of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

In order to keep costs as low as possible, we have organised a special price for purchases of such business attire with a local clothing store called Matalan (Address: Dartmouth Circus, Hubert Street, Birmingham, B6 4LD, Tel: 0845 330 3330, website: [www.matalan.co.uk](http://www.matalan.co.uk)). Whilst students are free to purchase these items at an outlet of their choice, we have negotiated a 10% reduction for all business attire items purchased at this store on the production of the school identification badge.

At King Edward VI Handsworth, we believe that it is vital that the school works closely with parents in order to best support our students. We very much appreciate your support in this matter and we look forward to seeing our students dressed for success in September.

Yours faithfully,

Mr. M. Gannon

Assistant Headteacher as Head of Sixth Form

## Sixth Form Dress Code

- A black, dark navy or dark grey business suit (top and bottom of the suit should be matching).
- A knee length skirt or full length trousers.
- Suits should be worn with a blouse or smart top.
- If you wish to observe your religious tradition you may wear an ankle length skirt.
- Skirts should be worn with plain navy, black or neutral tights.
- Shoes should be flat or low heeled.
- Discrete jewellery and make up are allowed.
- Headscarves may be coloured.
- Facial piercings and visible tattoos are not allowed.
- Hair colour should be of a natural colour and extreme or asymmetrical hairstyles are not allowed.
- Hats, coats, gloves and scarves should not be worn indoors

Inappropriate tops are those that:

- have straps;
- have logos;
- show cleavage; or
- are made of see through fabric.

