



Senior School Uniform Guide

We want our students to be proud of their uniform and enjoy wearing it.

The Gordonstoun uniform consists of a Day Uniform, a Going Out Uniform for formal occasions, and Sportswear. Students will also need expedition equipment.

In this section of the Joining Information you will find a list of all items in the school uniform and a list of expedition equipment. Our approved uniform supplier is School Blazer. Please consult our uniform list to find out which items are compulsory and which items are optional. The uniform list also tells you when items are available from other suppliers. Some items which are not available from School Blazer, such as sports equipment, can be purchased from [Grays Sports Equipment](#) which provides a discount on selected items for Gordonstoun pupils.

Please make sure that all items of uniform are clearly name labelled. School Blazer labels all garments for a very small fee.

Thank you for your support in ensuring your child has the required items ready for school.

Below is a list of frequently asked questions. If your question is not answered here please contact your Matron.

Questions and Answers

Why do you use School Blazer?

School Blazer is a well-established online supplier. Some of the key benefits include:

- The option to order anytime and from anywhere via a bespoke Gordonstoun microsite on [SchoolBlazer.com](#) making it easy to find the right uniform for your child's year group. All deliveries within three working days
- An "intelligent sizing system" on the website to help ensure that garments fit first time and to allow room for growth
- Free-of-charge returns (and 120 day return policy)
- The latest materials, ensuring high quality, comfort and a smart appearance
- There is a link to the second-hand website to buy and sell items in good condition
- Accreditation as a member of the [Ethical Trading Initiative \(ETI\)](#) which promotes respect for workers' rights around the globe



How will I know which item my child needs?

Schoolblazer's online shop has a simple, step-by-step process which recommends the correct product based on your child's size, year group and House. The site is bespoke to Gordonstoun School, and constructed in sub sections for each area of the School ensuring that, for instance, pupils in the Senior School will only be able to access the appropriate garments. This makes ordering simple and stress-free for parents.

Which items are optional and compulsory are clearly labelled on the shopping pages, and it is also clear when you can buy an item from another supplier. The School uniform guide is available on a tab on the website so that you can check how many of each item to buy. The list also explains which items you can purchase from School Blazer or another supplier.

I can buy similar items elsewhere, do I have to use School Blazer?

The online guide specifies which items can be purchased from other suppliers. The remaining items must be purchased from School Blazer to ensure good quality and a smart appearance, and to ensure they will stand up to the rigours of daily wear and tear.

How much does the uniform cost?

The total cost of an entire new uniform (day, going out and sportswear) varies from £750-£900. The School Blazer intelligent sizing system automatically allows room to grow, giving you good value for money.

Do I have to name everything?

All items - school uniform, own clothes and bedding - must be named so they can be easily identified when they are returned from the laundry. We recommend you use the School Blazer nametag service to prevent uniform being lost. Please name all other personal items so they can be returned if lost.

Is the uniform washable?

All items are machine washable, with the exception of the Senior Going Out kilt which is dry clean only.

How warm is the uniform?

We have recently improved the uniform to make it warmer. Our coats include very warm puffer jackets and our cosy soft-shell jackets are windproof and showerproof as well as being warm. The check shirts and blouses for Senior School students are in a soft, warm fabric and there are optional base layers for both Junior and Senior School sports activities.

What do I do with old items?

Second-hand uniform can be bought and sold via the School Blazer link. Parents will see a tab within the Schoolblazer shopping pages (alongside uniform and sportswear). When you click on "2nd hand" you will be directed to the relevant Gordonstoun page via 'Grown Out of It'.

We encourage you to recycle items which are no longer part of the uniform or re-use them outside school.

Have you considered infection control issues?

All the new garments are designed to be washed regularly and tests show they can handle far more regular washing than standard high-street garments.

Unlike many schools whose daywear consists of very formal items such as blazers, ours is practical and is designed to be washed regularly.



What are the ethical and environmental credentials of Schoolblazer?

Schoolblazer works with a small number of trusted suppliers to ensure that they know every part of their business and are certain that they meet high ethical standards. They have ten core suppliers who make over 80% of their goods.

Schoolblazer are the only independent school wear retailer in the UK to be accredited as a member of the [Ethical Trading Initiative \(ETI\)](#). The Ethical Trading Initiative is an alliance of companies, trade unions and NGOs that promotes respect for workers' rights around the globe.

There is a lot more information about their ethical and environmental policies on the Schoolblazer website: schoolblazer.info/wecare/

What happens if something doesn't fit (especially if it's been name labelled)?

Returns to Schoolblazer are free of charge and there is 120 day return policy. Due to the intelligent sizing system, Schoolblazer has a very low level of returns. Uniforms with labels can also be returned and the replacement items will be labelled free of charge.

Schoolblazer's online intelligent sizing is an integral part of the Schoolblazer website which recommends the best fit for each garment for your child. Please take a few minutes to measure your child and input accurate measurements so that Schoolblazer can recommend the correct sized garments. This gives you the option to choose garments based on the recommended best fit now, the recommended best fit for a year's time, or to select your own size.

Can I get uniform delivered to school / home / overseas?

Uniform can be delivered to any address, including school. Parcels are delivered via DPD with a normal turnaround of 1-2 days for name-tagged garments, but a firm promise of all deliveries within 3 working days.

Urgent garments which do not require name-tagging can be shipped in 24 hours on a Fast-track service. DPD send a text message to confirm a delivery window, and delivery can be rearranged if not convenient.

How does VAT work on the school uniform? After all, aren't children's clothes meant to be exempt from VAT?

In the UK, clothing and shoes for children are exempt from VAT until the age of 14. In practice, this means that VAT is charged on garments which have:

- "chest fit" from 38" upwards
- "waist fit" from 30" upwards

However, there are some exceptions where VAT is applied earlier, due to the size of the garments. These are rules over which we have no control and unfortunately exceptions cannot be made.

What are the other uniform rules?

Skirts must be knee length. This means they should touch the ground when kneeling down.

Please follow the school guidance on how many of each item to buy to assist the school laundry team and house matrons.

Is your uniform gender neutral?

There are optional shorts and trousers for females in all age groups. This gives everyone a choice about what style of garments they would like to wear.

The male/female guidance is advisory. Students should advise their HP if they wish to wear an item not normally identified for the gender they were given at birth, so that HPs can help support their choice.



Do exchange students or students who are only coming for one term have to buy the uniform?

Please purchase the checked shirts and grey skirt or trousers from the Day uniform and make sure your child has the correct shoes as specified on the uniform list. Students who are coming for one term can hire the rest of the Day uniform, all Sports and Going Out uniform. We charge a hire fee of £200 per term to cover wear and tear.

Exchange students can continue to wear their own Going Out uniform.

You can enter your child's exact measurements into the SchoolBlazer website and it will select uniform that will fit perfectly.

Can orders be copied to the school so that Matrons can check each student has everything they need?

Parents can send a copy of the order confirmation to Matrons.

Will there be any school uniform available on campus?

Matrons hold stocks of items such as socks and tights (as well as stationery) which will be added to the school bill.

What about clothing for expeditions and sail training? Where will we get that from? Can we hire it from somewhere?

An [expedition kit list](#) is in this section of the website. Any additional items will be managed by The Outdoor Education team and laundry team.

Schoolblazer's Helpline is 0333 7000 703 or email customerservices@schoolblazer.com

