



LONDON VOCATIONAL
BALLET SCHOOL

Uniform Policy 26/27

Introduction

At LVBS we believe that every dancer should feel comfortable and confident at school. To ensure our school is a welcoming space for everyone, our uniform policy is gender-neutral. While we offer specific clothing tracks (such as a ballet leotard with attached skirt and pink/tonal tights or short sleeved leotards with black tights) to ensure teachers can accurately observe physical alignment and technique, these choices are not restricted by gender. Any student is welcome to wear whichever approved uniform track best aligns with their identity and/or comfort. We encourage our dancers to choose the uniform configuration that allows them to move with confidence, and we support all students in making the choice that feels right for them.

It is LVBS's policy that our students wear school uniforms when attending school or when participating in school-organised events.

Aims and objectives

LVBS policy on school uniform is based on the notion that the uniform:

- promotes a sense of pride in the school
- engenders a sense of community and belonging towards the school
- is practical and smart
- identifies the students with the school
- makes students feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance
- is regarded as suitable wear for school and dance training

Jewellery

On health and safety grounds we strictly do not allow students to wear rings or hooped earrings at school. Students are allowed to wear one set of stud earrings; these must be only worn in the lower part of the ear. Nose studs and earrings on the upper or inner ear are prohibited.

A small necklace worn inside a t-shirt or jumper may be worn when wearing an academic uniform/tracksuit. These must be removed in all dance classes. Medical identification bracelets may be worn by students who have significant medical problems eg. Diabetes or epilepsy, but must be removed for all dance classes.

Hair

As a vocational ballet school we expect all our students to look neat and tidy at all times. Hair should be a natural colour - brightly dyed hair is not permitted.

In academic lessons, students' hair should be neat, but not in a tight ballet bun. This is to protect their hairlines by not having their hair pulled tightly back all day.

In dance lessons, students with long hair should have their hair up, and off their faces. Braids, twists and protective hairstyles are welcome options. Students with short hair should keep their hair tidy and out of their eyes. No clips, scrunchies, beads or other hair accessories are permitted.

For appraisals, assessments and performances, vocational tutors may advise students to have their hair in a certain style to allow for consistency across the year group/school.

Footwear

LVBS students must look after their feet and as such shoes with the best support must be worn throughout the day. We require all students to wear black trainers as stated in the uniform list. Please make sure that any shoes provide adequate support to students' feet - no 'Ugg' boots or similar are to be worn.

Parent responsibility

We ask all parents who send their young people to our school to support the school uniform policy. We believe that parents have a duty to send their children to school correctly dressed and ready for their daily schoolwork and training. One of the responsibilities of parents is to ensure that their young person has the correct uniform, and that it is clean and in good repair.

If any parent would like the school to modify the uniform policy, they should make representation, in the first instance, to the Directors.

Parents must make sure that all uniforms are clearly labelled with their young person's name.

The role of the trustees

The trustees support the Directors in implementing the school uniform policy. It considers all representations from parents regarding the uniform policy and liaises with the directors to ensure that the policy is implemented fairly and with sensitivity. It is the trustees' responsibility to ensure that the school uniform meets all regulations concerning equal opportunities. Trustees ensure that the school uniform policy helps children to dress sensibly, in clothing that is hard wearing, safe and practical both in academic classes and in the dance studio.

The school has used the DfE non-statutory guidance on school uniform and agrees with the guidance given in the DfE booklet which states:

'The school uniform plays a valuable role in contributing to the ethos of a school and setting an appropriate tone. The Department strongly encourages schools to

have a uniform as it can instil pride; support positive behaviour and discipline; encourage identity with, and support for, schools' ethos; ensure pupils of all races and backgrounds feel welcome; protect children from social pressures to dress in a particular way; and nurture cohesion and promote good relations between different groups of pupils. The Department also encourages schools to have a very clear position about appearance such as hair colour, style and length and the wearing of jewellery and make-up.'

Equality and Cultural Considerations

LVBS recognises that some students may require reasonable adjustments to the uniform policy for religious, cultural, or medical reasons. Requests for adjustments should be discussed with the Directors to ensure appropriate accommodations are considered.

Uniform expectations also support safeguarding by ensuring that students can be easily identified as members of the school community.

Louise Bennett - Artistic Director
Approval body: LVBS Trustees and Directors
Revised date: May 2026
Review Schedule: 1 year
Next review date: May 2027