



August 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

I hope you and your family are well and looking forward to our return to school in September. At this point, I would like to take this opportunity to remind you of our expectations regarding footwear so that we can enjoy a smooth start to the academic year.

A number of parents have recently queried the suitability of footwear via email. As response to emails is both time consuming and open to misinterpretation, this letter will clarify what manner of footwear is acceptable.

Our uniform expectation details the fact that pupils must wear plain, black school shoes for reasons of appearance, practicality and safety in school. Pupils cannot wear trainers, boots, heels, footwear with fashion logos or steel toe caps. In most cases, school shoes go no higher than the ankle and are either pointed or flat at the ends. The soles of the shoes are relatively thin. Footwear of this nature is usually uncomfortable to wear in the initial stages until broken in by repeated use. School and formal shoes are not intended to be fashionable items but professional in appearance. In adopting our zero tolerance attitude to inappropriate footwear, we are ensuring our student cohort reflect respect for themselves and the school. An acceptable range of school shoe is shown below.



At no point will we accept pupils wearing trainers in school unless they are in PE lessons. Trainers are categorised as any shoe that is used for recreational exercise or casual wear. This includes Air Force 1 and most brands of Kickers footwear. The soles of trainers will usually be significantly thicker than those of school shoes. They usually have their logo and brand highly evident on the body of the trainer. The laces are also thicker and flatter than those of school shoes. An example of inappropriate footwear is shown below.



Ella Brett **Headteacher**

Tottenham High School, Laurel Street, Tottenham, Bury. BL8 3LY

Tel: 01204 88 2327 **Email:** information@tottenhamhighsch.co.uk **Online:** www.tottenham.bury.sch.uk

In the event of pupils requiring specialist footwear, our expectation is that parents will make every effort to conform to our standard of school shoe. In some cases, this may require specialist fitting so as to enable the fitting of specialist soles into a shoe. Historically, this has usually been a barrier that parents have been able to overcome.

Should your child attend school wearing inappropriate footwear, they will initially be placed in isolation until the correct footwear is secured from home. Should the situation remain a concern for the school, further sanctions will be employed, which could include fixed term exclusions. This policy is in-line with Shaw Academy Trust guidance and reflects the drive to improve standards here at Tottington High School.

Yours sincerely



Mr J Burgoyne
Assistant Head

Ella Brett **Headteacher**

Tottington High School, Laurel Street, Tottington, Bury. BL8 3LY

Tel: 01204 88 2327 **Email:** information@tottingtonhighsch.co.uk **Online:** www.tottington.bury.sch.uk