



FERNDOWN
Upper School

Admission
Booklet



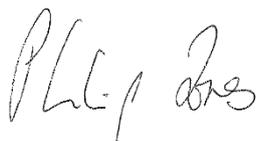
Welcome to Ferndown Upper School

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you to Ferndown Upper School. I know that starting Upper School may initially be a little daunting, but I know that you will quickly fit in and fully enjoy your time here. Welcome to the Ferndown Family!

At Ferndown, we believe that you should be happy and safe, that you should also achieve and that you should be fully prepared for life after school; whether that be employment, apprenticeship or University.

We have a proud record of student support, high exam results and many extra-curricular activities. So, I challenge you to make the very most out of your time with us.

This booklet contains some useful information for you to read before you start and I look forward to seeing you on Transfer Day.



Philip Jones
Headteacher

Welcome to Year 9

We would like to welcome you to Ferndown Upper School. We can reassure you that you have made an excellent choice and as a Year Team, we will do our best to make you feel very welcome and happy at our school over the next 5 years.

As a school, we have all been working towards making this transition as successful as possible. We look forward to welcoming your child into FUS on the Transfer Day prior to the summer holidays so please look out for the details of this. We know that starting at the Upper School is a major change and we are trying our best to reduce those concerns and worries which are inevitable at a time like this.

We believe, along with all of the other staff here at FUS, that students will flourish and develop to reach their full potential whilst they are here. As outlined by Mr Jones, if students follow our Ferndown Way they will thrive here and achieve the skills and qualifications needed to be successful in whatever future pathway they want to follow.

This booklet contains lots of important information about our school and hopefully it will provide answers to the many questions we are sure you have and will be of use in preparation for your start with us in September.

We are really looking forward to seeing you all and supporting you through what we are sure will be a successful journey with us at Ferndown Upper School.

Many thanks and best wishes,
The Transfer Team

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Ferndown Upper School Online Admission Form & Contact Information

You have been sent an email containing log-in details for our online Admissions Form. These invitations will be sent to the email address that you used for the application process with Dorset. If you change your email address during this transition period, please let us know by emailing transfer@fernup.dorset.sch.uk and we will update your details and re-send the invite. If you have not received your invitation by the middle of May, or if you are having any issues with the application form, please email and we will contact you directly to assist. The information that you give us on this form will enable us to ensure a smooth start for your child at Ferndown Upper School and should be completed no later than **Friday 24th May**.

Management Information System, MCAS (My Child at School) and the Student Portal

FUS uses a Management Information System called Bromcom which includes apps for parents and students to see information from the school including student timetables, assessment grades and attendance information. Parents use an app called MCAS. The student version is called Student Portal. For payments, we use Parentmail. Access to MCAS and Parentmail will be granted as soon as your child joins the school in September.

Further information can be found on our website: www.fernup.dorset.sch.uk
Or contact us on: 01202 871243
transfer@fernup.dorset.sch.uk

Transfer Evening – Thursday 27th June

Thursday 27th June from 6:30 – 7.30pm is the New Parents' Information Evening where your parents will meet important members of staff, along with the parents of the other Year 9 students. We will notify you of the House and Tutor Group which you have been allocated to on this evening. Parents will be given general information regarding systems here at Ferndown Upper School as well as the opportunity to meet your Head of House and some of the tutors in your House.

The Year 9 Team will also be available to answer any questions you may have. The evening will be in two sittings. The first group will be in the Hall for a presentation at 6:30pm with the Headteacher, Deputy Heads, Heads of Year and Mrs Chater (Transfer Coordinator). Once the hall has reached capacity, or 6:30pm, whichever happens first, the other parents will be asked to go to the Café. This other group can informally meet the other staff and get answers to those all-important questions that they may have. There will be a chance to talk about the structure of the school day, uniform, what activities the school has to offer as well as a chance to meet the Pastoral Managers. Then, sitting Two will be at 7pm in the Hall, giving the other group of parents the opportunity to meet in the café. Students do not need to attend this evening.

Transfer Day – Friday 28th June

Friday 28th June at 8.20am is the first day of the transfer experience. The programme for the day will be:

Arrival 8.20am	All students should gather in the main hall, where you will find stations marked alphabetically with your surname and you will collect your information sticker for the day. This sticker has your tutor group on it and is important as you will be in these groups during the day. You will then be asked to sit in houses in your new tutor groups. Your tutor will be there to take you to your tutor room for period 1.
TUTOR TIME & Lesson 1 8.30am-9.50am	This will be a longer than normal tutor time to allow you and your tutor group to take part in some activities designed to make you feel at home, as well as being given your transfer booklet and timetable for the day.
LESSON 2 9.50am-10.40am	After tutor time has finished you will be dismissed to go to lessons. The timetable will tell you what subject you have, who is teaching it and where it is located.
BREAK 10.40am-11.10am This has been extended by 10 minutes for today only	All transfer students are allowed to purchase hot food and snacks from the café. Any student eligible for free school meals can give their name to one of our checkout operators who will deduct the standard amount from the total food bill. Break time is a great opportunity to find the toilets, catch up with friends and find out where your next lesson is going to be!
LESSON 3 11.10am-12.10pm	When the bell goes at the end of break time you will need to check your timetable and head off to your next lesson.
LESSON 4 12.10pm-1.00pm	If you're not sure of where to go next, ask your lesson 3 teacher to point you in the right direction. There will also be lots of staff and 6 th Form students around to help you find your way. You will be in the same group so stick with those students who you have been in lessons with already.
LUNCH 1.00pm-1.40pm (also extended by 10 mins)	Slightly extended lunch, long enough to fill up your water bottle, get some more food and chat with friends and, yes, you are allowed to use your mobile phone at lunchtime, but please be sensible, remember no photos.
LESSON 5 1.40pm-2.40pm	The bell will sound for the end of lunch and you will need to head straight to the Hall for the Inauguration Assembly. Here we will celebrate the successes that you have shown throughout the day and will be officially welcomed to the school.

FAQ's for Transfer Day

1. Transport – how do I get to school?

You must arrange your own transport for this day. We cannot guarantee that there will be sufficient room on the existing school buses. Make sure you can get to school before 8:20am and don't forget we finish earlier at 2:40pm (due to a shorter lunch break).

2. What can I eat at lunch time and break times?

You may bring your own packed lunch and eat it in our café or outside at the tables in our quad. The cost of a café meal is approximately £3 and you can choose either sandwiches (hot or cold) or a 2 course meal of the day (subject to availability). Students will not need more than £5 to spend on drinks and food at break and lunch time. If your child is eligible for free school meals, this will be provided by the main café for the standard amount.

3. What should I wear on transfer day?

Wear your normal middle school uniform and arrive looking neat and tidy.

4. Do I need PE Kit?

Some students have a PE lesson on their timetable, the simplest thing to do is to bring your middle school kit.

5. What happens if I can't do PE for medical reasons?

Bring a short note in from home excusing you from PE.

FAQ's for September

1. When is my first day?

Year 9 Induction Day is on **Wednesday 4th September**

2. What should I wear?

Full FUS school uniform – details are on later pages of this booklet or you can visit our website:

<http://fernup.dorset.sch.uk/information/uniform/>

3. What about my locker, when do I get that?

Payment details can be found on p11. Students who have paid by 28th June, will be located a locker on the day they arrive in September. Students need to provide their own padlock.

4. Where do I go on my first day?

On the first day of the new term, all students will assemble in the main school hall at 8.25am for a short meeting. You will then spend time with your tutor before going off to lessons.

Finally, if on transfer day your child has any issues or concerns, our Pastoral Support Team can be found in C Block just above the large café. Our Pastoral Support Team will ensure that any questions or queries are resolved as quickly as possible.

Equipment List

Essential:

- 1 x 30cm ruler
- 3 x Blue or black pens
- 2 x Purple pens for reflective work
- 1 x Casio FX- 83GTX Scientific calculator
- 3 x Sharp HB pencils
- 1 x Rubber
- 1 x Protractor
- 1 x Pair of compasses
- 1 x Pencil case
- 1 x Pencil sharpener
- 1 x Strong school bag
- 3 x Highlighters in different colours
- 1 x Mini whiteboard and pen

Optional:

- 1 x USB (you may also store your work on Microsoft OneDrive)
- Media students – SD card
- Art students – sketchbook
- Photography students – photography book
- 1 x Diary
- 1 x Glue stick
- 1 x Pair of scissors
- 1 x Set of coloured pencils

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Getting to School

Dorset Council runs all the bus services for our feeder schools. Parents whose children need to use the school buses will receive detailed information from DC about these services but this information can also be obtained from the school office. The detailed routes and times can be found by clicking on the relevant PDF document on the website.

Outside of catchment

Students outside of catchment (e.g. Bournemouth, Poole) will need to arrange their own transport e.g. public buses (for which there are bus stops just outside the school) or car.

Courteous and considerate behaviour on buses is expected from all pupils and parents' help to ensure this is appreciated. The school reserves the right to ban students who misbehave from travelling on a school bus, and this will be supported by the LA.

The buses operating to and from Ferndown Upper School are as follows:

(This may be subject to change due to increased numbers of students in the school from September 2024.)

Service	Area Covered	Run by	Bus company	Contact
F1	Verwood, Three Legged Cross, West Moors to Ferndown	DC	Damory	01202 338420 enquiries@damory.co.uk twitter: @DAMORYCOACHES
F2	Ashley Heath, Verwood, Three Legged Cross, West Moors to Ferndown	DC	Damory	01202 338420 enquiries@damory.co.uk twitter: @DAMORYCOACHES
F3	Ringwood, Verwood, Three Legged Cross, West Moors to Ferndown	DC	Damory	01202 338420 enquiries@damory.co.uk twitter: @DAMORYCOACHES
F4	Verwood, Three Legged Cross, West Moors to Ferndown	DC	Damory	01202 338420 enquiries@damory.co.uk twitter: @DAMORYCOACHES
F7	Ashley Heath, St Leonards, Tricketts Cross to Ferndown	DC	Excelsior	01202 652222 Bookings@excelsiorcoaches.com

All buses normally arrive at the Upper School Car Park at about 8.20am and leave from the same location 10 minutes after the end of the afternoon session. The school provides an additional late minibus service to some areas of Verwood, Three Legged Cross, West Moors & Tricketts Cross every day.

Ferndown Upper School – Dorset Council routes

To determine if your child is entitled to free transport, or to find out how to apply and pay for a bus pass call DC on 01202 224545 or visit www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk and search for “Transport Policy”.

Please note that **6th Formers** do not have an automatic entitlement to transport on the DC buses. Passes are usually available but in most cases, there will be a charge. Applications for September passes must be made to Dorset Council between May 1st and May 31st. Any applications made after this date will not normally be processed until October half term. For more information, please refer to www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk and search for “Eligibility for Post 16 Transport”.

Late minibus

Some areas are also served by a late minibus every day, which departs at 16:15. This is run by the school so places are limited. Students should sign up in the school Reception in advance as a seat cannot be guaranteed otherwise. Bookings can be made at break and lunch times. If a student forgets to sign up, they may still be able to get a place but of course, the minibus may be full if they leave it to the last minute.

Disruptions to service

If a school bus fails to turn up on time in the morning, the student should use their mobile phone to ring the school (01202 871243) or the relevant bus company (listed on the previous page) for information and advice. If a bus fails to turn up after school, we will make every effort to get students home. For live information on any disruptions to service, please refer to www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk and search for “Transport Updates”.

Bus Timetables

Please refer to <https://www.excelsior-coaches.com/schools-timetables> for detailed information on bus routes.

Bikes and riding to school

We encourage students to ride to school and as such have over 100 spaces in our various bike sheds. Although these sheds remain locked during the school day, we would ask that all students lock their bikes individually too, as we cannot accept responsibility for them during the times that the sheds are open.

We would also like to stress the importance of wearing bike helmets, as we are all too aware of the lasting and terrible damage that can be done by a simple fall. Additionally, we expect sensible and courteous riding at all times and students not adhering to this will be sanctioned.

Absence recording and reporting

If your child is going to be unexpectedly absent, please inform us either via the Parentmail app, by email to studentabsence@fernup.dorset.sch.uk or you can contact us on 01202 871243 and select Option 1 for student absence. You will need to leave your child's name, your relationship to the child and the reason for absence. If your child is absent for more than one day, then each day they are absent should be reported for safeguarding purposes. We are only able to authorise up to 3 days of absence for illness unless medical evidence is provided. This can be in the form of a doctor's appointment card, a photograph of a prescription or prescribed medication, or a hospital letter. If your child is absent and we have not heard from you, we will send you a text message, an email or ring you to check that everything is Ok.

All requests for pre-booked term time absence must be made in writing to the Headteacher.

Term-time leave can only be authorised in exceptional circumstances. Please note that holidays are not classed as exceptional circumstances.

At Ferndown we place a huge importance on good attendance because we know the effect that poor attendance has on achievement. To this end we will monitor your child's attendance weekly and if it falls below 95%, we will contact you expressing our concerns and offering support. Please refer to our full Attendance Policy on our School website.

Year 9 Costs

When a student begins their education at Ferndown Upper School, we ask all parents to contribute a fee of **£20**, which will cover the following:

- Use and maintenance of a locker (for which they will need to provide a padlock) for the three years from 9 to 11 – an essential requirement for students to allow them to store their equipment, outdoor coats and personal items safely and securely every day.
- Access to cashless catering using biometric fingerprint recognition which is linked to a Parentmail account. If not using biometrics students can pay by cash/card, or pay an additional £5 for a fob.
- A student notepad for Year 9, which will help them organise themselves.
- £5 worth of colour printing credits (B&W is free).

Payment should be made before 31st August 2024. You can pay via 3 different routes:

- by debit/credit card at our induction evening
- online using this link: <https://pay.sumup.com/b2c/QN5BOU01>
- by scanning this QR code and paying online
- Students who pay before 28th June 2024 will be allocated a locker on their first day in September. A padlock is required.



Please ensure you state your child's name in the notes if paying online.

Pupil Premium students will receive these items free of charge.

At the start of the Autumn term you will be set up with an account on Parentmail. This website is used for making payments to school for trips and equipment. You can also use Parentmail to load money onto your child's biometric/fob dinner account. We do however advise that you give your child cash to purchase their lunch on their first few days (or to bring a packed lunch), in the unlikely event that there is a problem with the systems as your child transitions from middle to upper school.

If you are not able to use the Parentmail system for any reason, please contact the school office.

The cost of a meal is approximately £3 and you can choose either sandwiches (hot or cold) or a 2 course meal of the day (which includes a bottle of water). There are also breakfast items for sale from 7:45am each morning e.g. cereal bars, danish pastries and bacon rolls. Students will not need more than £5 to spend on drinks and food at break and lunch time. If your child is eligible for free

school meals, the allowance is £3.50 per day which can be used at break and/or lunch time. Students may bring their own packed lunch and eat it in our café or outside at the tables in our courtyard.

Acceptable Computer, Internet and WiFi Use Policy –

This Acceptable Computer, Internet and WiFi use Policy helps to protect students, staff and the school by clearly stating what use of the computer resources is acceptable and what is not. A copy of this policy can be obtained from our website at <https://fernup.dorset.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/policies/non-statutory/Computer-Use-Policy.pdf>

Personal Responsibility

As a representative of the school, I will accept personal responsibility for reporting any misuse of the network to a staff member. Misuse is as described below.

Acceptable Use

The purpose of the school network including Internet access is to support research and education by providing access to unique resources and the opportunity for collaborative work. The use of your account must be in support of education and research and consistent with the educational objectives of Ferndown Upper School.

Users Shall Not

Visit Internet sites, make, post, download, upload or pass on, material, remarks, proposals or comments that contain or relate to:

Pornography (including child pornography)

Promote discrimination of any kind

Promote racial or religious hatred

Promote illegal acts

Any other information that may be offensive to colleagues.

Use any other users account nor amend or delete any of their files or passwords.

Install or attempt to install programs of any type.

Privileges

The use of the computer network and Internet is a privilege, not a right and inappropriate use may result in a cancellation of those privileges. The system administrators will deem what is inappropriate use and their decision is final. Also, the system administrators may deny, revoke or suspend usage of an account at any time as required. The staff may request the system administrator to deny, revoke, or suspend specific user accounts at any time. Use for personal financial gain, gambling, political purposes, playing games or advertising is not permitted.

Services

Ferndown Upper School makes no warranties of any kind whether expressed or implied, for the network service it is providing. Ferndown Upper School will not be responsible for any damages suffered whilst on this system. These damages include loss of data as a result of delays, non-deliveries, mis-deliveries or service interruptions caused by the system or elements of the system, or your errors or omissions. Users are recommended to make backups of their files on a regular basis using a suitable medium such as a USB memory stick. Use of any information obtained via the network or other information systems is at your own risk. Ferndown Upper School Specifically denies any responsibility for the accuracy of information obtained via its Internet services.

Network and Email Etiquette and Privacy

You are expected to abide by the generally accepted rules of network etiquette. These include (but are not limited to) the following:

1. Be polite. Do not get abusive in your messages to others.
2. Use appropriate language. Do not swear, or use any other inappropriate language. Remember that you are a representative of the school on a global public system. You may be alone with your computer, but what you say and do can be viewed by others.
3. Illegal activities are strictly forbidden.
4. Do not reveal your personal address or phone numbers or that of fellow students.

5. Note that electronic mail (e-mail) is not guaranteed to be private. People who operate the system do have access to all mail. Messages relating to or in support of illegal activities may be reported to the authorities.
6. Do not use the network in such a way that you would disrupt the use of the network by other users. i.e. playing games, downloading music and inserting music or mobile devices into the USB port.
7. Anonymous messages and chain letters are not permitted.
8. The use of chat rooms is not allowed.
9. Other considerations:
 - Be brief. Few people will bother to read a long message. Proof read your message to ensure that it is error free and easy to understand and double check the recipients.
 - Remember that humour and satire are very often misinterpreted.
 - Respect the rights and beliefs of others.

Electronic Mail

Electronic mail (Email) is widely available via the Internet. Students are expected to use this facility in a responsible manner. The sending or receiving of any email, which contains any inappropriate material, is strictly forbidden. Spamming (sending large volumes of an email to various recipients) could potentially overload the system and it will be looked on as a serious matter, warranting the removal of Internet or E-mail privileges for periods from 2 weeks to permanent removal.

Security

Security on any computer system is a high priority, especially when the system involves many users. If you feel you can identify a security problem on the network or Internet, you must notify the IT Services Department or your ICT teacher. Do not demonstrate the problem to other users. Do not use another individual's account under any circumstance. Attempts to logon to the network as a system administrator will result in cancellation of user privileges. Any user identified as a security risk or having a history of problems with other computer systems may be denied access to the network and Internet.

Vandalism

Vandalism of any IT resources may result in cancellation of all privileges. Vandalism is defined as any malicious attempt to damage or destroy any part of the computer system and network infrastructure, data of another user, or any Internet sites. This includes, but not limited to, the uploading or creation of computer viruses, the willful damage of computer hardware, whether connected to the network or not and the deletion of data from its place of storage. Do not attempt to fix anything yourself, please notify a member of the IT Services team who will carry out the necessary repairs.

Monitoring

The school may exercise its right to monitor the use of the school's computer systems, including access to web sites, the interception of e-mail and the deletion of inappropriate or non-educational materials where it believes unauthorized use of the school's computer system is or may be taking place.

Sanctions

Violations of these rules may result in the withdrawal of access to ICT resources, and may lead to disciplinary action as deemed appropriate by the School. Where applicable, police or local authorities may be involved, or other legal action taken.

Use of School Wi-Fi

Ferndown Upper School provides wireless Internet access across its site for staff, students and visitors. You are expected to use access to the wireless system and the Internet in a legal and responsible manner. By using the wireless network, the user acknowledges that he/she is subject to, and agrees to abide by all laws, rules and regulations applicable to Internet use. Students agree that they will bring devices with sufficient power and are strictly forbidden from charging devices using any power outlets on site.

Terms and Conditions of Use

Ferndown Upper School assumes no liability for any damage or loss as a result of using the wireless system. Ferndown Upper School's insurance policy does not cover any accidental damage to individual's devices. As such personal devices are used at the owner's own risk.

Security Considerations

Anyone using Ferndown Upper School's wireless network is forewarned that there can be no expectation of privacy when using the wireless network. Users assume all associated risks and agree that Ferndown Upper School and its employees do not accept responsibility for any personal information (e.g. bank details) that is compromised, or for any damage caused to users' hardware or software due to electric surges, security issues or consequences caused by viruses or hacking. All wireless access users should have up-to-date virus protection on their personal laptop computers or wireless devices, as well as staying up-to-date with applicable operating system security patches. Users of the WiFi system must install a security certificate to their device which allows our web filter to inspect the traffic to ensure it does not contravene what is deemed educational. Use of VPNs (Virtual Private Network) apps or websites are prohibited as they circumvent our filtering and security provisions. Users found to be using a VPN may face sanctions or a ban from the WiFi system.

Ferndown Upper School utilise the Netsweeper filtering solution provided by our ISP (School's Broadband). The Netsweeper filtering solution uses a security certificate installed on all devices (owned by Ferndown Upper School and users own devices when using the WiFi network). Users agree to the installation of this security certificate on to their own device to make use of the WiFi network. The security certificate's purpose is to be able to inspect secure traffic between a user's device and a website, app or service online thus allowing Ferndown Upper School to block or monitor web searches or requests for websites, apps or services. The certificate serves no other function and is not used for tracking and has no effect when the user's device is away from the Ferndown Upper School network.

Code of Conduct

Ferndown Upper School's Code of Conduct Policy applies to this service and any misuse will result in withdrawal of access for the individual(s) concerned and may result in disciplinary or legal proceedings.

I agree to comply with Ferndown Upper School's policy and will not create or transmit:

- (i) Any offensive, obscene or indecent images.
- (ii) Material which is designed or likely to cause annoyance, inconvenience or needless anxiety.
- (iii) Defamatory material.
- (iv) Material that infringes the copyright of another person.

Any issues should be reported to the IT helpdesk. The wireless service may also be temporarily withdrawn at any time for essential maintenance without notice.

Catering

At Ferndown Upper, food can be paid for in a number of ways:

- Using a standard credit/debit card or Apple Pay
- Using the student's fingerprint which will be taken (if permission granted) during the first few days of the Autumn Term. This will link to a Parentmail account which can be topped up with credit.
- Using a personal fob (at a cost of £5) which can be loaded with credit via Parentmail.
- Cash – but we prefer not to use cash if at all possible after the first few days of term.

Q. What if I am entitled to Free School Meals?

A. There is no discrimination as the system works exactly the same for all students whether they pay or have a free school meal entitlement. The set allowance will be electronically placed onto the child's fob account each day (the allowance is not rolled over so must be used in full each day). Additional cash can also be added to enable a greater daily spend using the Parentmail account. This is retained in a separate electronic purse and is only used when free meal entitlement has been used in full.

School Uniform

We wish to remind everyone of the school uniform requirements and urge you all to send your child to school in the correct uniform. This is especially important when starting a new school. Children wearing the wrong uniform will either; be able to adjust it to be correct, be loaned the correct uniform, or removed from social times until uniform is corrected. At Ferndown, we are determined that our students will follow our school rules and we ask that you support us in making sure that this is the case. This starts with having the correct uniform.

We work to maintain high standards for our children and school uniform is an area where we expect students to share these expectations and have pride in belonging to our school community. We therefore set a clear expectation that uniform will be worn. Extremes of fashion are neither acceptable nor appropriate for school either in clothes, footwear, make-up, jewellery or hairstyle. Hair should be cut in an appropriate style for school e.g. no Mohicans or patterns shaved in. Students with long hair must carry a hair band for tying back their hair in some lessons e.g. PE, Design Technology for health and safety reasons. Shoes worn to school should be an appropriate style. Trainers may be worn for PE but must not be worn in place of shoes as they can become an expensive and inappropriate fashion statement for some children. Please see our school website for details of acceptable and non-acceptable school shoes. We do not allow branded shoes e.g. Nike Air, Vans etc.. We want you to be safe at all times, therefore, the wearing of jewellery is firmly discouraged (see more detail about this on page 23). If a child has pierced ears then stud earrings only may be worn (no other piercings are allowed), but we ask that these are removed for swimming and PE activities.

Acrylic nails and fake nails are also not acceptable as they can pose a risk during practical lessons such as Science. Nails need to be a sensible and a practical length. If nail varnish is to be worn, it should be a light and natural colour. No un-natural tips are to be worn. Make up should also be a natural look and not noticeable. Students choosing to ignore these rules could find that they are asked for their make up or nail varnish to be removed immediately.

Please also be aware that you should not bring any precious items or valuables to school, although you are issued with a reasonably secure locker, we cannot take responsibility should they be lost or damaged, this includes your mobile phone air pods etc.

Please note that costs of uniform from the West Moors uniform shop outlined below were correct as at 1st January and may vary.

DAYWEAR - Type A			
	ITEM	NOTES	COST from
	Trousers	Trousers - Plain black full-length school trousers. No corduroy, denim, jeans style or "fashion" trousers.	£9.99
	Blazer (specific design)	Available from the school shop only.	£34.00-£41.00
MANDATORY	Shoes	Plain black leather type (not fabric/canvas or leather 'Vans'). No high heels or stilettos, or backless shoes or strap sandals, no boots and absolutely no trainers and no easily visible logos, must have black soles. No large rubber band around the bottom.	n/a
	Tie	In House colour and available from school shop or school.	£6.50
	Shirt	Plain white school shirt with collar buttoned to top. No sports or casual shirts.	n/a
	Socks	Plain black or grey socks. Sports socks are not to be worn.	n/a
OPTIONAL	Belt	Must be plain black, no logo.	n/a
	Jumper	V neck, plain black, standard length and only to be worn under blazer.	£15.99
Type A - PE			
	Black polo top	With school logo - only available from school shop.	£20.99-£25.50
	Shorts	Embroidered with school logo and only available from the school shop.	£19.99-£23.99
MANDATORY	Trainers	Non-marking sole. No board shoes, converse style, plimsolls or black soles.	n/a
	Sports socks (indoor use)	White.	n/a
	Black & yellow rugby shirt	Embroidered with school logo and only available from the school shop.	£27.99-£33.99
	Gum shield		n/a
	Safety equipment	Padding/helmets if playing contact games/sports.	n/a
	Football socks (outdoor use)	Black or black/yellow.	£7.99
	Shin pads		n/a
	Football boots	With screw in studs so that rugby studs can also be fitted.	n/a
OPTIONAL	Tracksuit trousers	Embroidered with school logo and only available from the school shop - can be worn for Trampolining or over the usual PE kit if the weather is bad.	£29.99-£37.99
	Black PE overtop	Embroidered with school logo and only available from the school shop.	£26.99-£32.50

DAYWEAR – Type B			
	ITEM	NOTES	COST from
	Trousers	Trousers - Plain black tailored full-length school trousers which must not be skin tight (not 5 pocket jeans or jean style, calf length, tight fitting, low cut at the waist, or with any visible badges, motifs, zips or fasteners, ‘fashion’ trousers, leggings, lycra based fabrics, hipster style or skinny jeans). The test we use in school is whether the trouser clings to the knee or just below the knee. If it does cling to the knee or just below these trousers will not be accepted.	n/a
MANDATORY	Skirt	Specific design available from the school shop only.	£20.99-£25.50
	Blazer (specific design)	Available from the school shop only.	£34.00-£41.00
	Shoes	Plain black leather type (not fabric/canvas or leather ‘Vans’). No high heels or stilettos, or backless shoes or strap sandals, no boots and absolutely no trainers and no easily visible logos, must have black soles. No large rubber band around the bottom.	n/a
	Blouse (specific design)	Embroidered with school house logo and available from the school shop only.	(twin pack) £22.99-£29.99
	Socks or tights	Plain black socks. Natural or black tights. Sports socks are not to be worn.	n/a
OPTIONAL	Belt	Must be plain black with no logo.	n/a
	Jumper/cardigan	V neck, plain black, standard length and only to be worn under blazer.	n/a
GENERAL	Make-up	Discreet natural make-up. Excessive make-up will be asked to be removed. No false nails (health and safety risk). Only neutral shades of nail polish are acceptable.	n/a
Type B - PE			
	Black T shirt	With school logo - only available from school shop.	£18.99-£23.99
	Shorts or Skort	Embroidered with school logo and only available from the school shop.	£19.99-£23.99
MANDATORY	Football socks (outdoor use)	Black or black/yellow.	n/a
	Sports socks (indoor use)	White.	n/a
	Shin pads		n/a
	Trainers	Non-marking sole. No board shoes, converse style, plimsolls or black soles.	n/a
	Football boots		n/a
OPTIONAL	Sports leggings	Specific Leggings available from the school shop.	£16.99-£19.99
	Tracksuit trousers	Embroidered with school logo and only available from the school shop.	£29.99-£37.99
	Black PE overtop	Embroidered with school logo and only available from the school shop.	£28.99-£34.99

Our uniform is found on our website at <https://fernup.dorset.sch.uk/information/uniform/> - here you will find details of our Uniform A and Uniform B. **Students can wear one or the other, not a mixture of both.**

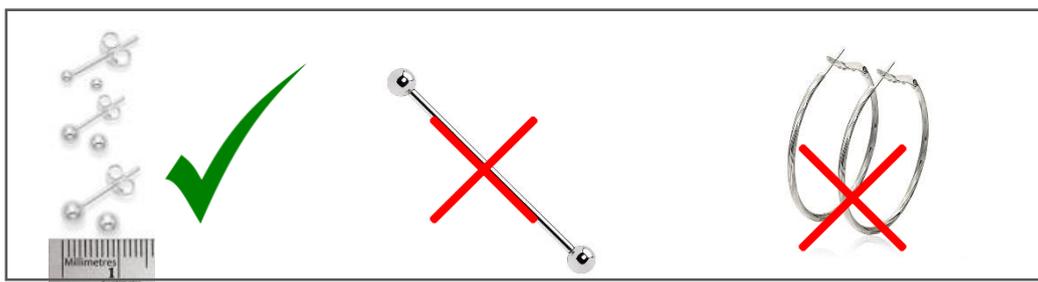
Items in yellow above must only be purchased from The School Shop (Park Way, West Moors, BH22 0HL, (01202 893040) in our specific FUS design. Where other prices are given, these items are also available at The School shop, although parents may choose to buy them elsewhere. In this case, parents must please ensure that items conform to the guidelines given or they will not be allowed.

General uniform guidance

Please note the following, which relate to all students:-

- No scarves
- No denim jackets or coats, sports or tracksuit tops, 'hoodies' etc.
- No baseball caps or other head gear
- No inappropriate hair accessories/designs, no unnatural hair colours
- No less than Grade 2 haircuts - no shaven heads, markings or hair tattoos
- Where hair is a natural colour (naturally or not) and growing out to a natural colour is acceptable in the short term. Students grow the colour out (and support this with haircuts where/when possible or they will re-dye it to be a natural colour. Students should not choose to dye their hair an unnatural colour or have two-tone hair
- No other jewellery than – 1 fine neck chain, 1 ring, 1 watch, 1 plain gold/silver stud in each ear, one plain nose stud (less than 1mm), one small bracelet, one charity wrist-band
- No other visible pierced jewellery and definitely no spacers or nose bars
- Coats (suitable for bad weather) are worn on top of blazers, not instead of and not to be worn inside school.
- Shoes - plain black leather not fabric/canvas or leather Vans, no high heels or stilettos or backless shoes or strap sandals. No boots and absolutely no trainers, no visible logos. The shoes must have black soles. Shoes with a rubber band around the bottom are considered trainers.

NB Inappropriate items of clothing (especially 'hoodies', scarves and jewellery) will be confiscated if worn in school.



Lower school Years 9 – 11

PE Department PE Kit Policy

- Black sports shirt with logo is for everyone and is compulsory
- Reversible Black and Amber/Yellow Rugby shirt for Rugby lessons (outside)
- White socks (indoors) and Black football socks (outdoors)
- Black Shorts with logo – leggings/base layer can be worn under shorts if required. No tracksuit bottoms
- Trainers: Non marking sole. No board shoes, converse style, plimsolls or black soles
- Football boots
- Swim wear – Swim shorts / one piece swim suit/costume (no bikini's)



Optional:

- Hoody with logo/sport zip up top with logo
- Shin pads
- Gum shield
- Black socks (can be plain or with gold strip)

The School Shop

Park Way,
Ferndown,
BH22 0HL
01202 893040

Sixth Form Years 12 & 13

PE Department PE Kit Policy

- Blue Polo shirt with logo is for everyone and is compulsory
- Black shorts plain or with logo
- Trainers: Non marking sole. No board shoes, converse style, plimsolls or black soles
- White socks (indoors) and Plain Black football socks (outdoors)
- Blue hoody with logo (optional)



Optional:

- Blue Hoody with logo

The School Shop

Park Way,
Ferndown,
BH22 0HL
01202 893040

Student Progress

What are the new GCSE grades?

Below the table shows, the new 9-1 GCSE grade system compared to the old A-G system.

How the new grades compare with the old ones

Old grades	New grades
A*	9
A	8
B	7
C	6
	5 STRONG PASS
D	4 STANDARD PASS
	3
E	2
F	1
G	1
U	U

Source: Ofqual



What are targets?

- Every student will have targets to be reached by the end of GCSE in Year 11. These are based on a combination of their cognitive assessment test results and teacher assessments taken during their first half here at Ferndown Upper School.
- As part of the first spring progress report you will see your child's targets for end of Year 9 under 'Year Target'.
- In the first term we focus on how your child is settling into the school and therefore during the autumn term we will only be reporting on their 'attitude to leaning'. (detail's outlined below in the 'What is Attitude to Learning?' section).

How good is my child's progress?

- Progress at FUS is compared to their end of year target. If students are meeting their end of year target in Year 9 and 10 we are confident they are likely to hit their final GCSE target.
- The Current Grade is highlighted in a colour to indicate progress (see table).

Progress	Colour
Excellent progress	Green
Good Progress	Yellow
On Track	Blue
Concern	Red

Why are end of year targets different between subjects?

- As targets are based on cognitive assessment and teacher assessments and judgement it is possible the end of Year 11 target is different between subjects.
- Even with the same GCSE target some end of year targets are different. This is because we find students' progress at different rates in different subjects.

What is Attitude to Learning?

At FUS we grade your child's attitude towards their learning inside and outside the classroom. We want year 9s to focus on this throughout their subjects as this will prepare them best for their future learning at GCSE and beyond. See the grid below which explains the different attitude to learning grades.

Attitude to Learning	Description
Excellent	Exemplary learner, they engage with all their learning in their lesson, try their best and hand in all their homework.
Engaged	Generally good learning, engage with most learning in lessons and rarely miss homework.
Coasting	Could improve their learning. Missing homework could be common, maximum effort is not put into work in some lessons.
Concern	Their attitude to learning is having a severe impact on their progress. They may be regularly missing homework or not engaging with the learning in lessons.

Please note: Even if a student is meeting their Year Target, they may have a poor Attitude to Learning - this is still an issue and shows that your child could be doing even better.

What is good attendance?

We expect students to attend school 95% + as a minimum. Students who have attendance of 90-95% will start to be of concern and be spoken to by their tutor. Less than 90% will result in intervention by Head of Year, below 85% may result in further action taken by the school. We work closely with Dorset Attendance Team and low attendance is referred to County.

What are behaviour points?

Students are given positive behaviour points in school for various aspects of engaging with school life. These are generally P1s, P2s and P3s. Higher awards are given for exceptional achievement and taking part in activities beyond the classroom. Students can receive negative points for negative behaviours. Further details of points being granted can be seen on your child's Bromcom account. The posters that show our rewards and consequence system can be found here <https://fernup.dorset.sch.uk/information/behaviour-and-rewards/>

Mobile Phone and Smart Watch Use

We do encourage our students to learn how to use their mobile phone responsibly. Students are allowed to carry mobile phones on them and from time to time teachers will ask students to use the phone to enhance their learning. For example, they make take a photo of key notes, record themselves or use the internet to complete some research. Since we take this approach, we do have very strict rules to ensure that phones are not a distraction in the classroom. Our website has our mobile phone policy on it, however, these are the key points. It is also important that you understand using a smart watch as a mobile phone is treated as if it was a mobile phone.

- *Students are allowed to carry their personal mobile phones in school.*
- *Use of the mobile phone during lesson time will only be allowed with the agreement of the teacher and for the explicit purpose of supporting learning.*
- *Phones are not to be seen in school between 8.25am and 2.40pm, unless asked to by a staff member for learning. Misuse of this privilege (using the phone for a non-curriculum purpose or any unacceptable use) will result in the immediate confiscation of the phone. The student will be able to collect the phone from the pastoral office at the end of the day – following the first confiscation.*
- *If the phone has been confiscated more than once in a term or for serious misuse (see policy) the phone will have to be collected by the parent or guardian of the student.*
- *If a phone goes off in class the student is to be instructed to turn it off and is likely to be confiscated.*
- *Students are not to use the school's ICT facilities or sockets to charge their phones.*
- *At all other times the mobile phone will be switched off or put on silent.*
- *No student may take a mobile phone or smart watch into a room or other area where examinations are being held.*
- *The security of phone and smart watch will remain the student's responsibility in all lessons including PE lessons.*
- *If asked to do so, content on the phone (e.g. messages, emails, pictures, videos, sound files) will be shown to a safeguarding lead.*

Headphones

The same rules apply to headphones as phones, we only expect to see headphones at times that phones are allowed to be used (unless there is a SEND need where reasonable adjustment is agreed through a EHCP and the SENDCo).

Unacceptable use

The school will consider any of the following to be unacceptable use of the mobile phone and a serious breach of the school's behaviour policy resulting in sanctions being taken.

- Photographing or filming staff or other students without their knowledge or permission.
- Photographing or filming in toilets, swimming pool and changing rooms and similar areas.
- Using their phone to access inappropriate or offensive sites.
- Bullying, harassing or intimidating staff or students by the use of text, email or multimedia messaging, sending inappropriate messages or posts to social networking or blogging sites
- Refusing to switch a phone off or handing over the phone at the request of a member of staff.
- Using the mobile phone outside school hours to intimidate or upset staff and students will be considered a breach of these guidelines in the same way as unacceptable use which takes place in school time.

Safeguarding – key information

The safeguarding lead for the school is Jo Taylor (Deputy Head) who can be emailed on safeguarding@fernup.dorset.sch.uk or if in relation to a Year 9 student please email on HeadofYear9@fernup.dorset.sch.uk as this will come through to the Year 9 Team. If you have any concerns about your own children or other children in the school please do call or email to report it.

Mrs Taylor is supported by a safeguarding team. If you, or your child has a concern, we would recommend the following approach.

Step 1 – Read/research

On our school website we have a bank of websites you can go to for reliable information on a range of topics (anxiety, online behaviours, self-harm, stress, eating disorders, domestic abuse etc.):

<https://fernup.dorset.sch.uk/information/safeguarding/> or
<https://fernup.dorset.sch.uk/information/pastoral/>

Step 2 – Look to talk

You might like to encourage your child to have online counselling. They can access this free of charge at: <https://www.kooth.com/>

Step 3 – Agency support

If you still have a concern after step 1 and 2. Ask for a meeting with the pastoral manager or Head of Year to consider referrals for support if needed. Please use the

HeadofYear9@fernup.dorset.sch.uk to contact us.

This email address is only valid once students start at Ferndown Upper School – please use the transfer email address until then.

Music Lessons

At Ferndown Upper School, we encourage all students to play an instrument or sing, and we are able to offer a wide variety of instrument tuition, delivered by highly experienced professionals.

Our current offer includes:

- Piano and Keyboard (popular and classical)
- Guitar (electric and bass)
- Voice
- Strings (violin, viola and cello)
- Woodwind (flute, clarinet and saxophone)
- Brass (trumpet, French horn and trombone)
- Drumkit and Percussion (snare, timpani and xylophone)

Should your son/daughter be interested in pursuing lessons in any of the above instruments, please indicate this on the school online admission form. We will then supply your contact details to one of our professional (DBS checked) tutors who will contact you directly to organise suitable times and dates for lessons. Payment is to be made directly to the music tutor (not through FUS). All lessons will be based in our music rooms on site at school. Instrumental lessons for Pupil Premium students are 100% subsidised for up to one instrument. Please contact the School Office to complete the required forms.

Should you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact our Director of Music, Mr. Roberto Gallo robertogallo@fernup.dorset.sch.uk

The Ferndown Way - Behaviour for Learning

In Lessons

At Ferndown, we have very high expectations of our students as learners. We expect them to be confident and self-assured learners. They should have an excellent attitude to learning and be making good progress in all their lessons. We expect them to be proud of their achievements and of our school. One key way they can demonstrate this is in how they dress and act around the school site. They should always be smart, on time and ready to learn (with equipment).

In lessons, they will discuss and debate issues in a considered way, showing respect for others' ideas and points of view. We expect students to understand that their education here is a step towards further education, training or employment. We expect them to value their education and rarely miss a day at school. We expect them to have impeccable conduct and to be self-disciplined. Their written work should demonstrate pride as they aim for all their books to be 'beautiful'. We expect our students to take an active part in every lesson, asking and answering questions and having an enquiring mind. Our students should always attempt any challenge put in front of them and work well with everyone. Our students are well equipped for lessons and display resilience, look for alternative solutions to a challenge or another way. Our students respond well to feedback and value the expertise of our staff.

Outside of Lessons

We expect that they conduct themselves in a respectful manner at all times around the school site. This means being polite and kind. They should treat others as they wish to be treated. We expect them to:

- Open doors for each other and particularly staff or visiting adults.
- Pick up litter.
- Respond immediately to any instruction from a member of staff.
- Never use abusive or hurtful language; they should be kind and courteous at all times – this is a 'No Put Down' school.
- Keep themselves safe on-line by adhering to the school's mobile phone and e-safety policies.
- Know where to get support if they need it.
- Report any incidents of bullying that they see or experience to a member of staff.
- Take the opportunity to engage with extra-curricular activities.
- Engage fully in and value the careers programme offered to them as part of their school journey

The Ferndown Way - Homework

Homework is a vital part of students' preparation for exam success. Research suggests homework advances learning by about a year*. Students will be given several homework tasks each night. This is because we want them to have lots of practice and be very successful. Research shows that students who do their homework achieve, on average, two grades higher in all their GCSEs compared to those who don't do homework regularly.

Year 9

Where possible students in Year 9 will be set one homework task per week in English, Languages, and Maths. Science will set three pieces per fortnight, one for Biology, Chemistry and Physics. In addition, each day science set a task using Tassomai which is accessible via a downloadable app onto mobile phones or desktops. There will be one homework task per fortnight in other subjects.

Practical subjects such as PE, Music, Drama, Design and Technology, Textiles and Photography will set homework at least once a month or more if required.

The duration of each task should usually be 45 minutes in Year 9.

Where a subject sets an extended task over several weeks (for example English), the expectation will be that the student will spend an average time per week as stated above. The department issuing the homework will be expected to give further guidance to students to enable them to break the tasks into smaller parts.

Years 10 & 11

Where possible students in year 10 will be set one homework task per subject per week. Science will set three pieces per fortnight, one for biology, chemistry and physics. In addition, each day science set a task using Tassomai which is accessible via a downloadable app onto mobile phones or desktops. The duration of each task should usually be 1 hour in Year 10 and 11.

Where a subject sets an extended task over several weeks (for example art), the expectation will be that the student will spend an average time per week as stated above. The department issuing the homework will be expected to give further guidance to students to enable them to break the tasks into smaller parts.

We are aware that homework can cause some students to get stressed. There are a few simple things they can do to avoid homework becoming stressful.

Six Top Tips:

1 Homework Club

Open 2.40-5pm each day. There are computers, books, staff and 6th form students available to help students with their homework.

2 Their tutor

If they are struggling with how to organise their work, they should speak to their tutor. They can help students to create a planner/phone calendar and help them to organise which tasks need to be completed when. This will help students to avoid getting C3s for 'Homework not handed in on time'.

3 School email

Every student and teacher has a school email. If students are stuck with their homework, we encourage them to email their teacher and ask for some help.

4 Study group

Lots of students set up online study groups. This is a Facebook/Snapchat/Messenger service that they can use to discuss a homework task. Just remember copying each other's work is not allowed!

5 Speak to staff

If they are really stuck with a homework they can always go and see a teacher at break, lunch or after school to ask for help. They really don't mind. The most successful students are often here until later in the day.

6 Use your parents

You, as parents, are a good source of help. Try and ensure that your child has a quiet place to study at home. You can help remove distractions (phone?). You can also help students with tasks if they are stuck.

Students who do not hand in their homework on time three times or do not put enough effort into their homework will receive a C3 for 30 minutes.

We hope this guidance will enable students to form successful homework habits that prepare them well for the examinations in Year 11 and 13.

**John Hattie "Visible Learning" 2012*

Parent/Guardian Support

As Parents and Guardians, your involvement and support for your son or daughter's learning and education is even more important at this significant stage.

At Ferndown Upper School we want to have a very positive two way communication between home, school and students, so we can achieve our aim of happy, successful students learning well and achieving their best, so do keep in close contact with us.

Bromcom is a key tool in informing you and students of their progress, rewards and any discipline sanctions, and we welcome emails, calls and parental meetings to discuss individual students.

Key ways you can help your son/daughter to achieve their best are:

- Ensure they have a quiet place to work at home.
- Encourage them to stay after school to make use of the Study Centre and to use their school email.
- Remove distractions while they do homework e.g their phone, TV, X-Box. Maybe use it as a reward for working well.
- Establish early evening routines of settling to do homework as soon as possible. Then they just become the habit.
- But most importantly build their belief in themselves and their ability to learn and work hard. Your faith in them and encouragement is key and very powerful. Mistakes are the key to learning and resilience will help them learn to persevere and do well in life.