



Re: Equipment and uniform for the new school year.

Dear Blatch Parent/Carer,

We hope you are having a restful summer period. As the new academic year comes to mind our thoughts turn to how our students can prepare for their learning next year. What is great is that we know our brilliant parent/carer community share this same aim. There is a great saying attributed to one of our nation's celebrated poets, Samuel Taylor Coleridge, who stated that individuals who are:

'best prepared can best serve [their] moment of inspiration'

This rings so true in school.

We certainly want our students to be ready for those *moments* when they will learn the most and to be ready to take advantage of their (many) moments of *inspiration*! Indeed, you will have seen on your child's end of year report that one of our three *Work Ethic* categories is **Readiness for Learning**. We like to take it seriously because we know just how much it helps!

This coming academic year being ready for learning is more important than ever as we welcome back, with real excitement, all of our students. This return, however, will bring changes to the way we teach; the way we use technology; the way we use our school site and the way we work together. We made wonderful strides forward in these areas last year and have great plans to continue to do so this year. We are ready and we know our brilliant students will want to be too. An important part of this readiness will be making sure students have **all the equipment they need for their return to lessons**.

Not only is it great to be prepared but **this year our teachers will not be allowed to loan equipment to pupils**. Not sharing equipment is an important hygiene measure all schools are putting in place to limit the risk associated with Coronavirus. It is something we know families will want to support. So in short, pupils need to make sure they have a full pencil case with the equipment below otherwise they will be unable to participate in parts of their learning. And we do not want them to miss some of those important moments.

To assist parents/carers, the Blatch subject leaders have put together the equipment list below so that you know exactly what your children must have with them every day for the new year. In reality this list is very similar to what we would expect all students to have in any year and we have made sure the items can be purchased affordably. The same is true of our uniform, we designed it to be inclusive and affordable and details of our expectations for every student can be found below the equipment list.

Any families experiencing financial difficulty in the purchase of uniform or essential equipment are invited to apply to our Hardship Fund via email: vcapranelli@blatchingtonmill.org.uk. We will respond to each request, this may be the provision of equipment or reimbursement for them purchasing it.

Please take the time to read both the sections on equipment and uniform below and do get in touch with us if you have any questions: office@blatchingtonmill.org.uk





BMS Equipment List

Students must have all of the items below every day. They will need a pencil case and an appropriate school bag!



Item	When do students need it?	Some examples <i>These are only examples from various affordable online vendors or shops. Parents/carers should not feel they have to purchase from these sites, they are examples to make it easier for parents/carers and many supermarkets and stores have whole ranges that can be bought in one go!</i>
Blue or black pens (x2 or more)	All subjects	Black/blue bic ballpoint pens (Amazon) 4-in-1 bic pens (ASDA) 4-in-1 bic pens (Sainsburys) Multiple colours bic ballpoint pens (Amazon)
A coloured pen (x1 red or green)	All subjects for redrafting, reflection & peer assessment	Black ballpoint pens (Poundland) Ballpoint pens (Tesco) Black Pens (Tesco) Ballpoint pens (Sainsburys)
HB Pencils (x2)	Maths, Science, Art, Design, Textiles, Geography & more.	Pencils (ASDA) Pencils (Tesco) Pencils (Tesco 2)
Highlighter (at least 1)	All subjects for reading and understanding key texts.	Highlighters (ASDA) Highlighters (ASDA 2) 4 pack Sharpie highlighters (Amazon) 4 pack O Connect highlighters (Amazon) Highlighters (WH Smiths) Highlighters (Sainsburys)
Ruler	All subjects	Ruler 15cm (WH Smiths) Ruler foldable 30cm (WH Smiths) Geometry Set (Amazon) Geometry Set (Amazon 2)
Protractor	Science, Maths and Design	
Scientific calculator	Science and Maths	Scientific Calculator (Amazon) Scientific Calculator (WH Smiths) Scientific Calculator (Tesco)
Colouring pencils (a selection of 8-10)	Art, Design, Geography & more.	Colouring pencils (WH Smiths) Colouring pencils (Tesco) Colouring pencils (Tesco)
Hair elastic (students with long hair)	For all subject practicals: Food, P.E, Science, Design,	Any plain colour
Gluestick	All subjects	

**Students do not need a compass or scissors - these are used less regularly and will be provided by subject teacher (once cleaned)*

<p><u>Face covering / Facemask</u></p>	<p>Students will be wearing face coverings when they walk about the school site from the gate to the classroom, once in the classroom students will be able to remove the mask.</p> <p>Blatchington Mill were an early adopter of face coverings and produced our rationale for parents/carers and students in May. This can be found on our policies page (scroll down to the bottom of the page: https://www.blatchingtonmill.org.uk/our-policies-and-processes/policies/)</p> <p>Since then the Government has mandated use in enclosed spaces such as shops, entertainment premises, places of worship, public transport and other indoor venues. Further to this, the advice on face coverings in secondary schools has also recently changed to direct their use in some school areas.</p> <p>Staff and friends of Blatch made hundreds of quality fabric masks for Yr 10 students and staff and continue to do so for the rest of the school. We will also supplement our supply with reusable masks.</p> <p><i>Students must bring a face covering/mask into school. These can be custom made/patterned but must not contain slogans or images/language that others may find inappropriate.</i></p>
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<p>Laptop Mouse with lead and USB connection to fit into Chromebooks. Wireless, with a USB is also fine</p>	<p>All students must bring in a mouse for use on Chromebooks, which will see more regular use in all subjects this year. We will not be able to loan mice.</p> <p>We would suggest pupils make use of any computer mice they may already have at home.</p>	 <p>These are wired examples but wireless is also fine.</p> <p>Currys PC World Amazon Basics Currys PC World 2 JE Tech (Amazon)</p>
<p>Earphones / Headphones with lead and a 3.5mm jack</p> <p>NOT wireless, Airbuds or Apple phone compatible versions</p>	<p>Every student must have either over-ear or in-ear earphones for several lessons each week when studying independently.</p> <p>Students should not bring in state-of-the-art, expensive earphones/headphones. We cannot support where these are lost or damaged. Basic earphones are all that is required.</p>	 <p>Argos Sainsburys Asda Tesco Amazon Amazon 2</p> <p>Even stores such as Poundland sell appropriate earphones.</p>

Students will also be issued with a **Chromebook** in the first few weeks of term. We are loaning every student a Chromebook to enable them to sustain their studies (e.g. even if self isolating and for use in certain lessons). It will be the student's responsibility to bring this in everyday for use in school.

BMS Uniform List

Our **uniform list** can be found here: [Blatch Uniform](#).

Our grey V neck jumper skirt and tie are available from Khalsa schoolwear: khalsaschoolwear.co.uk/blatchington-mill Khalsa Schoolwear also sells other generic items (e.g. plain white shirts, dark grey school trousers) but parents/carers are welcome to purchase these from other suppliers or shops to match the ones on the Khalsa website.

Please note students are not permitted to wear non school jumpers or hoodies on school site at any time. **They will be told to remove these and hand them in.** If needed, students are able to wear a warm outdoor jacket over the top of the school jumper (advised in the second part of the autumn term!)

Our **shoe list** can also be found here: [footwear guide](#). We allow **a range of black, formal school shoes** (leather or faux leather) and there are images and links on the guide to help busy parents/carers before they purchase shoes. Please note **we do not permit students to wear trainers** (leather or otherwise) or shoes with visible brands, (e.g. Nike Airmax or Airforce or Adidas Originals). Most shoes from shops like Footlocker, Sports Direct or JD sports are not going to be appropriate even though they are marketed as 'back-to-school wear'. **Smart school shoes can be purchased for far less than branded trainers, an important part of why we insist on them in the formal school setting.**

If you have any questions on equipment or uniform please do get in touch: office@blatchingtonmill.org.uk

Your faithfully,

Mr Capozzi

