



School Rules

Policy number	US022
Applies to	Upper School
Endorsed by	Head Master
Responsibility	Head Master
Date reviewed	March 2021
Next review	March 2022

School Rules

1. Conduct

Boys should always conduct themselves with good manners, respect, courtesy and kindness towards all, both in term time and out of it.

2. Absence and Illness

No boy may be absent from school without permission from the Vice Master. For any planned absences, you must request permission a minimum of three days in advance using the Leave of Absence forms available in the Bell Room. There are separate [guidelines](#) for University Open Day or interview absences.

If you are too ill to come into school, your parent must phone or email the Bellroom before 8.45am. If you are a Boarder, your Housemaster must approve the absence. Any boy who feels ill during the school day should report to the Medical Centre. Under no circumstances should a boy who feels ill return home, or to a boarding house, without the permission of the School Nurse. If given leave by the nurse, he must sign out at the Bell Room before going home.

3. Bounds

4th, Remove and 5th Form boys are not allowed off the school grounds during the school day. Sixth Form boys may leave the school estate at lunchtime but must be back in good time for assembly or sport. Betting shops, amusement arcades, vape shops, hotels, and public houses are out of bounds.

4. Uniform and Appearance

Boys must wear standard uniform consisting of regulation jacket, plain white shirt with conventional style collar, charcoal trousers of conventional cut, dark grey socks, house tie, and plain black leather shoes. They may wear a plain dark navy v-neck pullover and dark navy or house scarf. In winter, they can wear a navy blue, dark grey, or black coat of conventional design with plain collar and facings that takes them below the line of the school jacket. Variations from the agreed uniform list are not permitted. Hairstyles should be conventional, neat and tidy; they should not attract attention. Hair should be short of the ears and collar, but not excessively short. Hair cannot be dyed or highlighted. Boys must be clean-shaven. All boys must travel to and from school in school uniform. Boys may wear mufti only after afternoon engagements have finished. For all school engagements, uniform should be worn unless special permission has been given by the Vice Master. Earrings and jewellery are not permitted in the school.

5. Games

Games are compulsory on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons for all, and on Saturday afternoon for team players or as advised by the Director of Sport. Correct games kit must be worn. For boys unable to play, 'Off Games Forms' must be completed and handed to the Bellroom by morning break. All boys who are off games should report to room B7 at 14:15 on games afternoons. When going to or from games, boys must wear school tracksuits and they should not wear studded boots outside the school grounds. Games kit should not be worn in the town. All pupils whose games sessions do not run the full two hours must register at 2pm and are accountable to their games teacher until 4pm.

6. Registration and Assembly

Morning Registration: Boys must arrive for registration with tutors (or for Period 1 on Saturdays) by 08:40. Boys who have private study for Period 1 on a Saturday must register in the Library. Any boy not present by this time will be marked as absent. Subsequent arrivals must sign in "late" at the Bell Room.

Afternoon Registration: Afternoon registration takes place in period 6. Sixth Formers with a Study Period at this time must register at the Bellroom. On games afternoons, the register is taken by the member of staff taking games, or in the off-games room (B7) for boys who are off games.

All boys must be in Assembly on Monday and Friday, and Chapel on Wednesday no later than 1.50. All talking stops when the music starts playing.

7. ICT, Mobile Telephones and Personal Music Players

ICT, including all portable electronic devices must be used responsibly. It is forbidden for boys to store or send inappropriate or offensive material. Boys are not permitted to use mobile devices in the Dining Hall, and are not permitted to have headphones in their ears when on the school site. The school reserves the right to confiscate a phone if known or suspected to be used inappropriately.

8. Bicycles and Motor Vehicles

Boys may cycle to school but bicycles must not be ridden within the school grounds. Bicycles must be left locked in the bicycle store during the school day. When riding, boys must wear helmets, have front and rear lights on when it is dark and abide by the Highway Code. Sixth Form boys with cars may drive to school if necessary but cars may not be used at all during the school day, including lunchtime, and there is no parking on site. Boys are not allowed to drive to sports fixtures unless given specific written permission by the Vice Master. In no case is a boy driver allowed to give another boy a lift to school or a school function unless specific written permission has been granted by the Vice Master. Driving permission is not normally given to boarders, though on occasions temporary permission for special reasons may be granted by the Vice Master. If there are instances of careless driving or unacceptable behaviour while using the car, parents will be informed and the school will take appropriate disciplinary measures. Permission to cycle or drive to school can be withdrawn at any time.

9. Use of alcohol, drugs and smoking materials

Bedford School is to remain free of drugs, alcohol, tobacco and other smoking paraphernalia, including vaping equipment, at all times. Possession or use of these materials can result in expulsion from the school. Boys who do not follow this rule will be dealt with according to the school policies published on the website.

10. Property

Do not bring expensive property into school. Ensure your property is clearly name tagged, and that money and other personal items are kept in lockers. If you have lost property, report to Bell Room. Do not touch or 'borrow' property that does not belong to you. If you suspect theft, report it immediately.

11. Sixth Form Study Periods

During a Private Study Period boys must work in school. Exceptions: All 6th form boarders with a double study period can return to their boarding house to study. Boys with a single study may do so at the discretion of the Housemaster. Follow the guidelines in the [Sixth Form Private Study Policy](#).

12. General

Boys should be particularly courteous to visitors, stand when adults visit or enter a form room if asked to do so, and hold doors for visitors and staff.

Eating is forbidden except in the area of the dining halls or in house areas. Chewing gum is not allowed on the school estate or in any of the buildings. Games are not permitted on the hard area to the south of the Main Building, the 1st XV pitch or the 1st XI square. Shortcuts should not be taken across grass areas, particularly those surrounding the Memorial Hall. No boy may enter the Sports Hall, swimming pool, weights area or squash courts unless there is a member of Staff present. No public display of physical affection (and this would include hand-holding and embracing) is permitted when a boy is on the school estate or in school uniform. No boy has any reason to carry a knife including a craft knife or scalpel. No boy may sell anything within the School without the permission of his Housemaster.