

**GIRTON COLLEGE  
CAMBRIDGE**

**DRESS AT CONGREGATIONS**

All graduands and celebrands must wear the correct academic dress; i.e. all graduands and celebrands must wear the appropriate hood and gown and those wearing a suit must wear bands.

**GRADUANDS AND CELEBRANDS WHO ARE NOT PROPERLY DRESSED WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO BE PRESENTED FOR THEIR DEGREE.**

If you are not properly dressed (i.e. your dress does not meet the University's requirements as set out in the *Dress at Congregations* document), the Praelector may have to withdraw you from the congregation you were scheduled to attend and enter you for a future congregation where you can have your degree celebrated or, if your degree is yet to be conferred, you would have the choice of graduating in person or in absence.

**Dress Option One**

- A black or very dark grey lounge suit, or a dinner jacket. These must be dark enough not to contrast obviously with a black gown (which means that they must be so dark as to appear black when worn with the gown).
- Trousers must be full-length and reach to the shoe.
- If a belt is worn, the buckle must be discreet.
- A plain, long-sleeved, collared, white shirt.
- Formal plain black shoes (if laced the laces must be black). Sandals are not permitted.
- Unpatterned black or very dark grey socks.
- White bow-tie and bands must be worn.

**Dress Option Two**

- A black or very dark grey skirt suit or trouser suit, or a black/very dark skirt without a jacket, or a black/very dark grey, long-sleeved dress. These must be unpatterned and dark enough not to contrast obviously with a black gown (which means that they must be so dark as to appear black when worn with the gown).
- Trousers must be full-length and reach to the shoe.
- Skirts and dresses must be at least knee length.
- If a belt is worn, the buckle must be discreet.
- A plain, long-sleeved, white shirt or blouse (unless a long-sleeved dress is worn). Arms must be covered.
- Formal plain black shoes (if laced the laces must be black). Sandals are not permitted.
- Legs must be covered in unpatterned black, nearly-black, or natural coloured hosiery.
- A white bow-tie and bands may be worn (optional) but only with a properly collared white shirt.

**A LONG-SLEEVED WHITE SHIRT MUST BE WORN (UNLESS YOU ARE WEARING A BLACK, LONG-SLEEVED DRESS).**

A black cassock may be substituted for a dark suit, skirt or dress in either Dress One or Two, but it must be worn with *either* a white bow-tie and bands *or* a clerical collar and bands.

### **PLEASE NOTE:**

- **very high heels, open toed shoes, slingbacks, boots, clogs and mules ARE NOT permitted**
- Plain, black or neutral stockings or tights, or black socks under trousers must be worn – **bare legs ARE NOT permitted**
- Visible tattoos must be covered

Graduands and celebrands **MUST NOT:**

- Carry a handbag
- Wear heavy jewellery – small stud earrings and simple rings only are permitted
- Wear anything on their head – except for religious reason (please check with Student Services or Praelector)

### **Headdress**

The square cap, or 'mortarboard', is optional for graduands and celebrands at Cambridge. If you do decide to wear one on the day, you are not permitted to wear or carry it in the Senate House and should leave it with a guest.

### **Jewellery**

Conspicuous jewellery and hair accessories are not permitted.

### **Hair Colouring and Style**

Exaggerated hair colouring and/or styles are not appropriate and graduands and celebrands are asked to adopt a neat and tidy hair style.

### **National, Clerical and Military Dress**

If you wish to wear your national or cultural dress, or service uniform, instead of standard dark clothes, this is normally possible, but you must apply at least two weeks before the graduation via Student Services, so that the Praelector can make a formal request for dispensation to the Proctors. You must still wear the correct gown and hood on top. For any questions, please be in touch with the Student Services.

**IF YOU ARE IN ANY DOUBT ABOUT YOUR DRESS, PLEASE CONSULT THE STUDENT SERVICES OFFICE OR PRAELECTOR.**

**ALL GRADUANDS AND CELEBRANDS MUST ADHERE STRICTLY TO THE REGULATIONS**