

## Gymslips, Gender & Gentry

### The History of School Uniform in Britain

by Kate Stephenson

#### DESCRIPTION:

What's a djibbah, how long has the old school tie been around and do yellow petticoats really repel vermin? How have social and educational changes affected the appearance of schoolchildren? This book will provide answers to these questions and more, in an engaging foray into 500 years of British school uniform history from the charity schools of the sixteenth century through the Victorian public schools to the present day.

In this cross-disciplinary work, Kate Stephenson presents the first comprehensive academic study of school uniform development in Britain as well as offering an analysis of the social and institutional contexts in which this development occurred. With recent debates around the cost, necessity and religious implications of school uniform and its (re)introduction and increasingly formal appearance in many schools, this book is a timely reminder that modern ideas associated with school uniform are the result of a long history of communicating (and disguising) identity.

#### CONTRIBUTORS BIOGRAPHIES:

Kate Stephenson is a cultural historian with diverse research interests within the fields of dress and social history. She is a Senior Editor for the Art Story and has consulted widely as a freelancer on education in heritage.

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