



Passion for Fashion

Tue, 7th Dec 2021 GMT/BST

Viewing:

Viewing for this sale is strictly by appointment only, and you must be registered to bid with us in advance. Please contact us directly to arrange an appointment, with the available times as follows:

Thursday 25th November and Friday 26th November: 9:00am-5pm

Monday 29th November - Friday 3rd December: 9:00am-5pm

Additional viewing times may be considered, by special request.

Lot 34

Estimate: £600 - £1000 + Fees

A rare boys' suit, French, late 18th century,

of buff wool with blue horizontal stripes and pink silk stripes forming a lattice, the fall-front breeches with three buttons to the waist, self-covered buttons to the knees, lined in white linen; the jacket of short, boxy shape, with curved sleeves, the cuffs with matching buttons, lined in white linen, *chest 53cm, 21in*

Children's clothing was often adapted to hand on to another child in the family or even a second generation from a father to his son. At the turn of the 18th century boys' clothing was in a period of great change/transition. The miniature adult suits comprising long tailcoats and breeches were eschewed in favour of the more practical and comfortable Skeleton suit of the 1790s with short boxy jackets (such as this one) and longer trews instead of breeches. This little suit seems to have undergone an alteration (mainly to the jacket) circa 1800, and again in the second half of the 19th century when it was worn for fancy dress, with lace and extra buttonholes added.

Children's and particularly boys' clothing is incredibly rare - and this suit even with its modifications is of great interest.