

School Uniform

Policy

# 1. Aims

This policy aims to:

* Set out our approach to requiring a uniform that is of reasonable cost and offers the best value for money for parents and carers
* Explain how we will avoid discrimination in line with our legal duties under the Equality Act 2010
* Clarify our expectations for school uniform

# 2. Our school’s legal duties under the Equality Act 2010

The [Equality Act 2010](https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2010/15/contents) prohibits discrimination against an individual based on the protected characteristics, which include sex, race, religion or belief, and gender reassignment.

To avoid discrimination, our school will:

* Avoid listing uniform items based on sex, to give all students the opportunity to wear the uniform they feel most comfortable in or that most reflects their self-identified gender
* Make sure that our uniform costs the same for all students
* Allow all students to have long hair (though we reserve the right to ask for this to be tied back)
* Allow all students to style their hair in the way that is **appropriate** for school yet makes them feel most comfortable
* Allow students to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons
* Allow students to wear headscarves and other religious or cultural symbols
* Allow for adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking students or their parents to get in touch with Saskia Marchand Smith and Jonty Stephenson (Key Stage Leads), who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests

# 3. Limiting the cost of school uniform

Our school has a duty to make sure that the uniform we require is affordable, in line with statutory [guidance](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/cost-of-school-uniforms/cost-of-school-uniforms) from the Department for Education on the cost of school uniform.

We understand that items with distinctive characteristics (such as branded items, or items that have to have a school logo or a unique fabric / colour / design) cannot be purchased from a wide range of retailers and that requiring many such items limits parents’ ability to ‘shop around’ for a low price.

We will make sure our uniform:

* Is available at a reasonable cost
* Provides the best value for money for parents / carers

We will do this by:

* Carefully considering whether any items with distinctive characteristics are necessary
* Limiting any items with distinctive characteristics where possible for example only our blazer, features the school logo and our school tie is in school colours
* Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost or long-lasting items, such as our ties
* Considering cheaper alternatives to school-branded items
* Avoiding specific requirements for items students could wear on non-school days, such as coats, bags and shoes
* **Keeping the number of optional branded items to a minimum, so that the school’s uniform can act as a social leveler**
* Avoiding different uniform requirements for different groups
* Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities
* **Making sure that arrangements are in place for parents to acquire preloved uniform items**
* Avoiding frequent changes to uniform specifications and minimising the financial impact on parents of any changes
* Consulting with parents and students on any proposed significant changes to the uniform policy and carefully considering any complaints about the policy

# 4. Expectations for school uniform

4.1 Our school’s uniform

* Blazer - Black Blazer with school logo (Branded)
* Jumper - Black v-neck (optional no logo)
* Shirt - White (short or long sleeve)
* Trousers - Black / grey long length (no denim / jeans / joggers / leggings)
* Skirt - Black / grey knee length
* Tie - School tie (Branded)
* Shoes - Black flat lace ups / slip ons / velcro fastening not trainers
* Socks - Black / white / grey (plain)
* Tights – Black or grey (plain)​

**PE Kit**

## Black shorts

## House sports top – Red / Yellow / Green / Blue (Branded)

## Trainers

## White socks

**Bags and Coats**

Suitable for the time of year and what is being carried

**Jewellery and hairstyles**

One small stud type - but no facial piercings

No extreme hair colouring or styles

## 4.2 Where to purchase it

Our school uniform – blazer, tie and PE top can be purchased at:

The Schoolwear Shop,

105 Mayflower Street,

Plymouth

PL1 1SD

01752 252025

shop@plymouthschoolwear.co.uk

**We also have preloved items of school uniform available in school**

# 5. Expectations for our school community

5.1 Students

Students are expected to wear the correct uniform at all times (other than specified non-school uniform days) while:

* On the school premises
* Travelling to and from school
* At out-of-school events or on trips that are organised by the school, or where they are representing the school (if required)

Students are also expected to contact Saskia Marchand Smith and Jonty Stephenson (Key Stage Leads) if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to their protected characteristics.

5.2 Parents and carers

Parents and carers are expected to make sure their child has the correct uniform and PE kit, and that every item is:

* Clean
* Clearly labelled with the child’s name
* In good condition

Parents are also expected to contact Saskia Marchand Smith and Jonty Stephenson (Key Stage Leads), if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to:

* Their child’s protected characteristics
* The cost of the uniform

Parents are expected to lodge any complaints or objections relating to the school uniform in a timely and reasonable manner.

Disputes about the cost of the school uniform will be:

* Resolved locally
* Dealt with in accordance with our school’s complaints policy

The school will work closely with parents to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.

5.3 Staff

Staff will closely monitor students to make sure they are in correct uniform. They will give any students and families breaching the uniform policy the opportunity to comply but will follow up with the headteacher if the situation doesn’t improve.

Ongoing breaches of our uniform policy will be dealt with by the Key Stage Leads.

In cases where it is suspected that financial hardship has resulted in a students not complying with this uniform policy, staff will take a mindful and considerate approach to resolving the situation.

5.4 Governors

The governing board will review this policy and make sure that it:

* Is appropriate for our school’s context
* Is implemented fairly across the school
* Takes into account the views of parents and students
* Offers a uniform that is appropriate, practical and safe for all students

The board will also make sure that the school’s uniform supplier arrangements give the highest priority to cost and value for money.

# 6. Monitoring arrangements

This policy was reviewed by the Headteacher and agreed by the Board of Governors on 14th July 2022.