

2025

School Uniform



**Woolgrove School,
Special Needs Academy**
Live, Laugh and Learn
Together

Owner: Headteacher

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Adopted by: Full Governing Board

Review cycle: Annually

Next review date: 01/10/2025

WP0012

Version: 1:1

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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](#) prohibits discrimination against an individual based on the protected characteristics, which include age, sex, disability, race, religion or belief, pregnancy and maternity, and gender reassignment.

To avoid discrimination, our school will:

- Avoid listing uniform items based on sex, to give all pupils 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 pupils
- Allow all pupils to have long hair (though we reserve the right to ask for this to be tied back)
- Allow all pupils to style their hair in a way that is appropriate for school and makes them feel most comfortable
- Allow pupils to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons or if they are experiencing discomfort related to their sex or gender.
- Allow pupils to wear headscarves and/or other religious garments
- Allow pupils with sensory or physical needs to make reasonable adaptations to their uniform depending on their specific needs
- Allow for reasonable adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking pupils or their parents/carers to get in touch with class teachers who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests. These will be considered on a case-by-case basis

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](#) from the Department for Education (DfE) on the cost of school uniform.

We understand that items with distinctive characteristics (such as branded items, or items that need 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/carers' 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
- Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost
- Considering cheaper alternatives to school-branded items.
- Avoiding specific requirements for items pupils 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 year/class/house groups
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities
- Making sure that arrangements are in place for parents/carers to acquire second-hand uniform items
- Avoiding frequent changes to uniform specifications and minimising the financial impact on parents/carers of any changes
- Consulting with parents/carers and pupils 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

- Polo shirts - white, yellow, light blue or royal blue
- Polo necks – white or blue
- Royal blue sweatshirt – either school logo one or plain coloured
- Royal blue cardigan or tank top / body warmer
- Jogging bottoms – black
- school trousers – black
- Skirts / culottes – black
- Tights – black

Summer

- Shorts – black
- Blue checked summer dresses – with short cycling shorts underneath for modesty purposes

Shoes

- Black shoes or Black trainers
- Wellington boots or snow boots

PE

- Separate pair of black jogging bottoms
- Black sport style shorts
- Trainers, if usual footwear is shoes
- T-shirt - white or royal blue

- Swimming wear, towel and goggles

Other

- Waterproof coat with hood
- Blue beanie hat (winter) and blue hat (summer) or alternative winter and summer hat
- Blue drawstring PE bag
- Waterproof trousers
- Named water bottle – to be left at school
- Woolgrove blue book bag or an alternative book bag

4.2 Where to purchase it

Official school uniform items are purchased through the school office but these are optional. We hold stock of sweatshirts, cardigans, book bags, drawstring swimming bags, fleeces and hats.

Everything can be purchased in supermarkets and other shops. We also have a small selection of second hand uniform available for which we ask a voluntary donation.

5. Expectations for our school community

5.1 Pupils

Pupils are expected to wear the correct uniform (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

We recognise that many of the children in our school may struggle to wear certain items of clothing due to sensory issue, anxiety etc and may also at times refuse to wear uniform. During these times, we believe that it is preferable for children to be attending school and to be comfortable. Therefore, on occasions children may not be wearing uniform to school and may wear other clothes or outfits. Class teams will support children to dress appropriately for the school day and wear the school uniform.

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/carers are also expected to contact the class teacher 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/carers 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/carers to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.

5.3 Staff

Staff will closely monitor pupils to make sure they are in correct uniform. They will support any pupils and families who are for agreed reasons not wearing the school uniform.

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/carers and pupils
- Offers a uniform that is appropriate, practical and safe for all pupils

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