

# School uniform policy (Years 7-11)



**WILMSLOW**  
HIGH SCHOOL

Managed by: Deputy Headteacher – Personal Development / Community

Policy Approval: Governors

Governor link committee: Finance & Resources

Date of Review: November 2024

Next Review: November 2025

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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 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 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 Mr M Vincent, 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 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
- 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 year/class/house groups
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities (students considering attending rugby practice will be advised to purchase a rugby shirt as their PE top)
- Making sure that arrangements are in place for parents to acquire second-hand 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

#### Uniform

- Black regulation blazer with school crest (purchase from school supplier)
- Optional maroon v-neck jumper with school crest (purchase from school supplier).
- Maroon with House colour clip-on tie (purchase from school supplier)
- Plain white shirt with pointed collar, which must be tucked in at all times (any retailer)
- Black tailored trousers (any retailer) / Black kilt style skirt (purchase from school supplier)
- Plain black socks (not trainer socks) / plain black tights (any retailer)
- Black outdoor coat without large logos / images (any retailer)
- Sensible plain black shoes

#### Jewellery and hair styles

Jewellery is not permitted with the exception of watches and stud earrings. Students may wear two small plain gold or silver stud earrings, one in each earlobe. Extreme hairstyles (both too short and too long) should not be worn. Make-up and nail polish should not be worn. The final decision concerning the appropriateness or otherwise of any aspect of school dress or appearance will rest with the Heads of House and Student Managers.

#### PE kit (essential)

- Black polo shirt with school crest **and / or** reversible outdoor games shirt (purchase from school supplier)
- Black indoor shorts **and / or** rugby shorts **and / or** black skort **and / or** leggings, all with school crest (purchase from school supplier)
- White socks (any retailer)
- Long outdoor hooped socks (purchase from school supplier)
- Non-marking trainers / football or rugby boots (any retailer)

**Please note:** Reversible outdoor games shirt with school crest – this is not an essential item, but it is recommended that any students who wish to play football or rugby at after school clubs, purchase this item (purchase from school supplier)

#### PE kit (optional)

- Performance top with school crest (purchase from school supplier)
- Black sweatshirt with school crest (purchase from school supplier)

## 4.2 Where to purchase it

- Express Uniforms (school uniform)

All items of school uniform can be purchased from Express Uniforms. Click [here](#) for the price list and further details.

- PE kit – Printworks (in-school shop)

All essential and optional items of PE kit can be purchased from the school's Printworks Shop. Click [here](#) for more details.

- Pre-loved uniform

There is a pre-loved uniform shop run by our Parent Partners in school every Wednesday afternoon.

## 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 their Head of House 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 their Head of House 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 Mr S Mackintosh.

In cases where it is suspected that financial hardship has resulted in a student 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, in line with DfE guidance on school uniforms, 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, for example by avoiding single supplier contracts and by re-tendering contracts at least every 5 years.

## **6. Monitoring arrangements**

This policy will be reviewed every 2 years by Mr M Vincent. At every review, it will be approved by the full governing board

## **7. Links to other policies**

This policy is linked to our:

- Behaviour policy
- Equality information and objectives statement
- Anti-bullying policy
- Complaints policy

[Wilmslow High School Policies Page](#)