



Woodloes Primary School

School Uniform Policy

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Version Control

Version	Last Modified	Last Modified By	Document Changes
1.0			New policy
2.0	February 2026	S. Byrne	Adjusting school uniform

1. Introduction

1.1 Purpose of the Policy

Woodloes Primary School believes that a consistent school uniform policy is vital to promote the ethos of the school and provide a sense of belonging and identity for all pupils, regardless of their protected characteristics or socio-economic circumstances. The uniform serves to foster equality among students, creating an environment where everyone feels valued and included.

This policy lays out the measures the school has taken to ensure a consistent, fair, and inclusive uniform policy. We are committed to implementing a uniform that reflects the diverse needs of all pupils, while also being affordable and providing the best value for money for both the school and pupils' families. Our aim is to make the school uniform accessible, ensuring it does not present a financial burden to families.

We are confident that pupils learn most effectively and achieve their best outcomes when they are comfortable and dressed in a manner that sets an appropriate tone for education. The uniform not only enhances the learning environment but also plays a crucial role in instilling pride and a sense of belonging within the school community. We appreciate the support of families in upholding this important aspect of our school culture.

1.2 Statutory and Regulatory Compliance

This policy has been developed in accordance with:

- The Department for Education's (DfE) statutory guidance: *Cost of school uniforms* (2021)
- The Education (Guidance about Costs of School Uniforms) Act 2021
- The Equality Act 2010
- Ofsted's *School Inspection Handbook* (2024), which expects schools to foster a positive school culture through high expectations and inclusive practice

2. Aims and Principles

2.1 Key Aims

This school uniform policy is underpinned by the following aims:

- To promote a strong and cohesive school identity
- To foster high standards of personal appearance among pupils and create a professional and purposeful atmosphere
- To support equality and inclusion so that no pupil is disadvantaged due to socio-economic status, gender, religion or belief, disability or background
- To ensure uniform is affordable, accessible and practical
- To allow for flexibility where individual needs may require reasonable adjustments

2.2 Core Principles

Our approach to uniform is guided by the following principles:

- **Inclusivity:** We respect pupils' rights to express their cultural and religious identities through their dress
- **Affordability:** We are committed to ensuring that uniform is reasonably priced, limits branded items, and enables access to second-hand options
- **Sustainability:** We encourage the use of durable, reusable and second-hand uniform to reduce environmental impact and long-term costs
- **Clarity and consistency:** Uniform rules are applied fairly and transparently across all pupils

3. Roles and Responsibilities

3.1 School Standards Committee (SSC)

The SSC is responsible for:

- Ensuring the uniform policy complies with applicable legislation and guidance
- Monitoring the policy's effectiveness and ensuring it is reviewed routinely

3.2 Headteacher

The Headteacher is responsible for:

- Implementing and upholding the school uniform policy daily
- Ensuring staff and pupils are aware of uniform expectations
- Responding reasonably to requests for variation or adjustment

3.3 Staff

Staff are expected to:

- Model high standards in dress and presentation
- Monitor pupil compliance with uniform expectations
- Communicate sensitively with pupils and families around uniform issues

3.4 Parents and Carers

Parents and carers are expected to:

- Ensure their child wears the correct school uniform each day
- Contact the school if they experience difficulties providing uniform
- Work in partnership with the school to maintain high standards

3.5 Pupils

Pupils are expected to:

- Wear the correct school uniform with pride
- Take responsibility for their personal appearance
- Speak to a trusted adult if they face challenges complying with the uniform policy

4. Uniform Requirements

4.1 Compulsory Uniform Items

The following items must be worn by all pupils

- School sweatshirt/cardigan with e school logo – green
- Yellow polo shirt with school logo
- Black trousers, shorts, skirt, pinafore
- Black socks or tights
- Black school shoes or plain black trainers (logos must be black or white only)

4.2 Physical Education Kit

PE Kit must include:

- White round neck t-shirt
- Black shorts
- Trainers
- Optional for colder weather: plain black tracksuit bottoms and top

4.3 Footwear

Footwear must be:

- Plain black shoes or plain black trainers (logos must be black or white only)
- No boots or open-toe sandals are permitted unless directed for medical reasons or reasonable adjustments

4.4 Seasonal Variations

- Pupils may wear plain black school shorts during the summer term
- Green and white gingham dresses may be worn in warmer weather

5. Uniform Expectations and Standards

5.1 Wearing of Uniform

- Uniform must be worn at all times during the school day
- Pupils may be required to wear school uniform during formal off-site visits, except where sportswear or alternatives are more suitable

5.2 Personal Appearance

Personal presentation expectations include:

- Hairstyles should be appropriate for school. Long hair must be tied back.
- Hair accessories must be minimal and in school colours
- Jewellery is limited to one pair of small stud earrings; no other piercings are permitted.

6. Affordability and Supply

6.1 Affordability Considerations

To minimise costs, the school ensures that:

- Branded items are limited to essential uniform (i.e., sweatshirt and polo shirt)
- Most other items can be purchased from mainstream or supermarket retailers
- Suppliers are reviewed regularly for value and quality

6.2 Provision of Pre-Loved Uniforms

- A pre-loved uniform shop operates termly and is accessible during parent events
- Donations of good-quality uniform are accepted year-round
- A confidential request system is in place for families needing support with uniform

6.3 Financial Assistance

- The school considers applications for financial assistance on a case-by-case basis
- Families eligible for Pupil Premium, Free School Meals, or other hardship support may request additional support for uniform
- The school will signpost families to local charities or government schemes when appropriate

7. Equality and Inclusion

The school has adopted a gender-neutral uniform policy, which permits pupils to select any items listed in the 'Uniform Requirements' section regardless of the legal sex recorded in school records. This approach supports transgender pupils in accessing the uniform that best aligns with their gender expression.

Moreover, the school acknowledges the necessity for flexibility regarding dress requirements imposed by cultural or religious affiliations. Pupils who belong to specific religious or cultural groups will be afforded the opportunity to wear a uniform that accommodates their beliefs, while the school will balance these requests against any prevailing health and safety considerations affecting the whole community.

Requests and concerns from parents regarding religious clothing are addressed on an individual basis by the headteacher and the governing board, always adhering to the school's Complaints Procedures Policy.

Furthermore, the school is committed to ensuring that the uniform policy considers the needs of pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) and/or sensory difficulties. Soft, stretchy fabrics will be prioritised, and where necessary, individual adaptations to the standard uniform will be considered and permitted, within the realm of possibility, to support all pupils effectively.

7.1 Pupils with SEND

- Reasonable adjustments will be made to support pupils with sensory sensitivities or physical disabilities who may find standard uniform uncomfortable or impractical
- Parents should liaise with the Headteacher/SENCo to discuss individual needs

7.2 Religion and Belief

In accordance with the Equality Act 2010, the school permits:

- Religious garments such as hijabs, yarmulkes, turbans or headscarves in plain school colours
- Skirts or trousers tailored to meet religious requirements
- Requests for variation must be made in writing and considered individually

7.3 Gender Neutrality

- Pupils may choose any approved uniform item, regardless of gender
- Gender-neutral options are available across all age groups
- The school ensures that all uniform policies and options are inclusive

8. Enforcement and Support

8.1 Monitoring and Enforcement

- Uniform compliance is monitored daily by teaching staff
- Any concerns are discussed with the parent/carer and pupil in a private and respectful manner
- A graduated response is used for non-compliance

8.2 Supportive Approach

Where a pupil is not wearing uniform due to genuine financial or personal hardship, the school will:

- Seek to understand and support the family
- Work with the family to provide temporary or permanent solutions

9. Review

9.1 Policy Review Cycle

- This policy is reviewed biennially by the SSC
- Revisions may also occur sooner in response to legal changes

10. Communication of the Policy

10.1 Availability of the Policy

- The uniform policy is available on the school website
- Hard copies are available from the school office upon request
- Incoming families receive the policy with enrolment documents

10.2 Visual Guidance

- A visual uniform guide is provided each year with photographs of acceptable items
- Examples are displayed on school noticeboards and via the website

11. References and Appendices

11.1 Key Documents and Links

- DfE Cost of School Uniforms Guidance (2021):
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/cost-of-school-uniforms>
- Equality Act 2010:
<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2010/15/contents>
- Ofsted School Inspection Handbook (2023):
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/school-inspection-handbook-eif>

This policy demonstrates our commitment to high standards, effective governance and community cohesion through an inclusive, affordable and fair approach to school uniform.