



SCHOOL UNIFORM POLICY – X SCHOOL

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1. Introduction

1.1 This school uniform policy relates to [X] School ('the School'), part of the Agora Learning Partnership ('the Trust'). All Agora schools follow the DfE (Department for Education) guidance and legislation in their application of school uniform policy; this guidance (and related documents) can be found at the following links:

- [Developing school uniform policy](#)
- [Preventing hair discrimination in schools](#)
- [Procuring school uniform supplies](#)
- [Procuring uniform supplies: template documents](#)

1.2 School uniform plays a valuable role in contributing to the ethos of a school and sets an appropriate tone. The DfE strongly encourages schools to have a uniform:

"We strongly encourage schools to have a uniform, as it can play a key role in:

- *promoting the ethos of a school*
- *providing a sense of belonging and identity*

setting an appropriate tone for education"

(DfE: Developing school uniform policy, April 2024).

2. Aims and objectives

2.1 X School is proud of its identity and children are expected to wear the school uniform when attending school or when participating in a school organised event outside normal school hours (unless school leaders determine there is a specific reason not to do so).

2.2 Our policy for school uniform is based on the notion that school uniform:

- Promotes a sense of pride in the school
 - Creates a common identity amongst children
 - Engenders a sense of community and belonging toward the school
 - Supports positive behaviour
 - Is affordable, whilst practical and smart
 - Makes children feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance
 - Helps to reduce cases of bullying and peer pressure to wear the latest fashions or other expensive clothe items
- Is regarded as suitable wear for school and conducive to a successful learning environment

3. Roles and responsibilities

3.1 *Academy Governing Board (AGB)*

3.1.1 The Academy Governing Board supports the Executive Headteacher/Headteacher in implementing the school uniform policy and liaises with the Executive Headteacher/Headteacher to ensure that the policy is implemented fairly and with sensitivity. It is the governors' responsibility to ensure the school uniform policy reflects the school's vision and values and meets all national regulations, including in relation to equal opportunities.

3.1.2 In developing and agreeing this policy the Academy Governing Board of XX School has considered the following factors: [most of this list is from the DfE requirements/guidance and the DfE states the policy should include examples of how this has happened e.g. when consultation took place and views considered, AGB meeting where costs were compared]

- The total cost of the school uniform, taking into account all items of uniform or clothing parents/carers will need to provide while their child is at this school (including PE kit)
- How to keep branded items to a minimum and selecting generic items which are widely available from a range of retailers
- The uniform supplier arrangements with regards to giving the highest priority to cost and value for money (including the quality and durability of the garment)
- The availability of second-hand uniform
- How the uniform can create a shared identity and common sense of purpose
- What is required practically for classroom lessons or for sport
- The avoidance of additional uniform for the purpose of extra-curricular activities

- In relation to school uniform, obligations under the Human Rights Act 1998 and Equality Act 2010 including considerations of diversity, equity and inclusion, avoiding discrimination due gender, sex, religion or belief, race (including colour, nationality, ethnic or national origin), disability, economic circumstances or social and cultural background
- The cost of similar uniform items, for example, trousers versus skirts, are not disproportionate
- Safeguarding and health and safety related considerations
- Comfort and suitability, for example, with regards to:
 - pupils walking or cycling to school
 - extreme weather conditions
- The wishes of parents/carers and pupils (where these have been expressed)
- Sustainability and impact on the environment
- The avoidance of frequent changes in requirements
- The school's Behaviour Policy in relation to uniform, including if the school's rules on appearance or behaviour are breached

3.1.3 The AGB will consult with staff, parents/carers and children **[via the school council]** in the development of this policy and any future changes

3.2 *Headteacher*

The Headteacher is responsible for:

- Providing information to the AGB to enable the Board to make appropriate decisions about school uniform
- Enforcing the school's uniform policy on a day-to-day basis
- Ensuring that school staff understand this policy and know what to do if a pupil is in breach of the policy
- Listening to the opinions and wishes of the school community regarding the school's uniform and making appropriate recommendations to the Academy Governing Board
- Providing pupils with exemptions as appropriate e.g. for a pupil who has a broken arm and requires a loose-fitting top

3.3 *Parents/carers*

3.3.1 Parents/carers are responsible for:

- Providing their children with the correct school uniform as detailed in this policy
- Ensuring that their child's uniform is clean, presentable, the correct size and clearly labelled with the child's name
- Contacting the school to seek support if:
 - They are finding it difficult to provide their child(ren) with a full school uniform

- Their child(ren) need(s) some flexibility in relation to the school uniform; for example, if they have a specific need that prohibits them from wearing the full school uniform (see further details below)

3.3.2 The school welcomes children from all backgrounds and faith communities. If there are strong reasons, e.g. on religious grounds, why parents/carers want their child to wear clothes that differ from school uniform, the school will give consideration to such requests, weighing the needs and rights of individual pupils against the health and safety concerns of the entire school community. Parents'/carers' concerns and requests regarding religious clothing are dealt with on a case-by-case basis by the Headteacher and Academy Governing Board.

3.3.3 Similarly, should an item of school uniform prove problematic for a pupil with disabilities then parents/carers are invited to draw this to the attention of the headteacher.

3.4 *Pupils*

Pupils are expected to:

- Wear their school uniform with pride
- Look after their belongings and keep the cloakroom areas tidy

4. **School uniform**

4.1 *General* [add any school specific points to this section]

- Parents/carers can mix and match items from the list depending on the weather, and whatever their child prefers - the most important thing is that they are happy and comfortable.
- It is helpful to children and encourages confidence and independence if children are able to manage their own clothing [Younger children benefit from pull-up trousers and skirts and non-laced shoes]. [may not be needed for junior schools]
- Uniform items with the XX school logo can currently be purchased [state shop/online etc] however we are committed to ensuring no parent/carer experiences a barrier to providing a school uniform for their child, and there is no obligation for your child to wear items of clothing bearing our logo. [Sew on badges are also available from xx]
- The school endeavours to ensure that the uniform is as gender neutral and as inclusive as possible. We do not insist that children wear any specific items of clothing, such as trousers, skirts or dresses.
- Parents/carers are free to buy items in the school colours from any source they choose. Low-cost uniform is widely available from supermarkets and high street stores.

4.1 *Uniform items*

[clearly state whether each item is optional or required, make clear whether a generic item will be accepted or if a branded item is required. Include sufficient

information so that a parent/carer is clear whether an item can only be purchased from a specific retailer or if it can be purchased more widely, including from second-hand retailers.

Do not list girls and boys items separately

Include footwear

Include photos if helpful

A 'quick reference guide' can be placed separately on the school's website with reference to this full policy]

4.2 *PE/swimming kit*

[list requirements]

4.3 *Equipment*

[for example, book bags, backpacks, PE bags, water bottles]

PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT ALL YOUR CHILD'S CLOTHES, SHOES AND BAGS ARE CLEARLY LABELLED!

4.4 *Hair and jewellery*

The Equality and Human Rights Commission, with support from the Race Disparity Unit in the Cabinet Office, has produced guidance on preventing hair discrimination in schools. Academy Governing Boards will consider this guidance when developing and reviewing the school's policy about children's hair styles.

[hair, watches, earrings, nail varnish/make up etc – ensure this section does not discriminate on gender/religion e.g. long hair, religious jewellery]

4.5 *Second hand uniforms and lost property*

[DfE requirements: Schools should ensure that arrangements are in place so that second-hand school uniforms are available for parents/carers to acquire (for example through periodic second-hand uniform sales or swap shops). It is for the school to decide how this will be best achieved. A school may wish to organise the provision or sale of second-hand uniforms themselves or via their Parent Teacher Association (PTA), or to participate in other appropriate established local schemes (for instance a local authority uniform exchange scheme).

While schools can decide the particular method they are going to use to make the provision of second-hand uniforms available to parents/carers, all schools should ensure that information on second-hand uniforms is clear for parents/carers of current and prospective pupils and published on the school's website. This should clearly state where second-hand uniforms are available to be purchased.

Lost property – location, retention period, what happens if child goes home in wrong clothing etc]

4.6 *Adverse weather*

[include any specific requirements or relaxation of rules for hot summer/very cold winter weather e.g. covered shoulders, sun hats, sunglasses, sunscreen, hats, gloves, coats

Include requirements for outdoor play]

5. **Complaints**

Parents and carers should refer to the school's complaints policy [\[add link\]](#) to make a complaint about this policy or the application of the policy.