

WEST TOWN LANE ACADEMY

WHERE LEARNING IS AN ADVENTURE

School Uniform Policy



Approved by:	Finance Committee	Date: July 2025
--------------	-------------------	-----------------

Next review due by:	July 2027
---------------------	-----------

New Policy July 2022

Contents

1. Aims	2
2. Our school's legal duties under the Equality Act 2010.....	2
3. Limiting the cost of school uniform.....	2
4. Expectations for school uniform	3
5. Expectations for our school community.....	4
6. Monitoring arrangements	5
7. Links to other policies	5

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 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 the way that is appropriate for school yet makes them feel most comfortable
- Allow pupils to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons
- Allow pupils to wear headscarves and other religious or cultural symbols
- Allow for adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking pupils or their parents to get in touch with the Assistant Headteacher 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
- Considering cheaper alternatives to school-branded items, such as logos that can be ironed on, as long as this doesn't compromise quality and durability
- 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
- Considering alternative methods for signaling differences in groups for interschool competitions, such as creating posters or labels
- 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 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

Red or white polo shirt

Red sweatshirt or cardigan

Black/charcoal trousers or skirt - Optional red dress for summer

Black shoes or plain black trainers

PE Kit:

On designated PE days children will wear their PE kits to school.

A white T-shirt with a plain navy blue/black track suit/track suit bottoms (shorts and full-length leggings, navy blue or black are optional).

Plain black trainers/daps

JEWELLERY

Jewellery is limited to one pair of stud earrings and a watch. Nose studs, necklaces or bracelets are not to be worn for safety reasons and all items of jewellery must be removed for PE lessons.

We are not responsible for any items of jewellery brought in to school.

4.2 Where to purchase it

Our uniform can be purchased from most supermarkets.

Uniform with logos can be purchased online via our website. Nursery jumpers can be purchased through the office.

The Friends of School run regular second hand uniform sales

5. Expectations for our school community

5.1 Pupils

Pupils 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)

Pupils are also expected to contact the Assistant Headteacher 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 and carers are also expected to contact the Assistant Headteacher 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 and 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 to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.

5.3 Staff

We understand that there are occasions where, due to individual circumstances, a child may not be wearing uniform. We would ask that, on these occasions, parents/carers communicate the reason for this with the class teacher. We would then be able to establish whether support with this could be offered or if a short term solution was available.

Where uniform expectations are not met, and the class teacher does not have any information about the reason for this, the teacher will speak to the child and/or parent (depending on what is appropriate) and explain the uniform policy to them. If there are continued concerns around this, the Assistant Head Teacher will be notified and will make contact with the child's parent/s or carer/s to clarify the uniform requirements and offer further support if necessary.

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 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, 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 three years by the School Business Manager, at every review, it will be approved by Finance and Resources Committee

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

- Behaviour policy

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