

School Uniform Policy



Approved by:

Amelia Lomas/LP
Governing Body

Date: June 2022

Last reviewed on:

June 2022

Next review due by:

Annually

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/PE kit for religious or cultural reasons
- › Allow pupils to wear coverings, hairstyles and religious or cultural symbols to identify with religious, cultural or gender identity.
- › Allow for flexibility to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking pupils or their parents to get in touch with Amelia Lomas, 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 for example, by only asking that the jumper over the polo shirt has the school logo. The Polo shirt may be plain white without the logo.
 - › Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost or long-lasting items, such as book bags.
 - › 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

- › A blue jumper or cardigan with the Lower Park logo
- › A plain white polo shirt or optional logo polo shirt
- › Plain blue jumpers and cardigans are accepted
- › There is now a wide range of trousers, skirts, skorts, culottes, pinafores and shorts available and all styles are acceptable, shorts or blue gingham dress or shorts in the summer months.
- › Black or grey socks or tights and white socks with summer dresses
- › PE kit – house colour top with plain black or navy tracksuit bottoms, leggings or blue shorts. Any colour trainers.
- › Where possible jewellery should not be worn, earrings should be small studs. Exceptions may be made for the wearing of jewellery for religious reasons after discussion with the head teacher.
- › Plain black shoes or plain black trainers
- › School hoodies may be worn on PE days and during school trips for extra warmth.
- › Hoodies can be worn as uniform until they are outgrown, we are moving back to school jumpers or cardigans as daily school uniform.

4.2 Where to purchase it

- Our school logo jumper and hoodies are available from Poynton School uniform (PSU of Poynton Ltd)

This can be ordered online from www.lowerpark.uniform4you.co.uk

You will be asked for a password which is: Hazelbadge1

- Iron on school logo badges are available from the school office at a cost of £2.50
- Our Parent Teacher Association (PTA) will arrange second-hand uniform sale each term and we welcome donations of used uniform which is still in good condition to sell on to other families.
- All other items of uniform may be purchased at a supermarket of your choice including plain blue jumpers for the iron on badges.

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)

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 the head teacher, Amelia Lomas via email head@lowerpark.cheshire.sch.uk if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to:

- Their child's protected characteristics
- The cost of the uniform
- To request support with the cost of school 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:

- 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 pupils to make sure they are in correct uniform and pupils will be rewarded for this.

In cases where it is suspected that financial hardship has resulted in a pupil 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 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 yearly by the Senior Leadership team. At every review, it will be approved by the full governing body.

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

- Behaviour policy
- Equality policy
- Complaints policy