



Gorefield Primary Academy

Uniform Policy

Gorefield Primary Academy believes that uniforms are an important element in nurturing a sense of identity and responsibility. Our uniform is accessible to all pupils and their families and which represents value for money. To this end, we have kept branded items to a minimum. Branded items can be purchased from Price Buckland.

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 all 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: age, sex, sexual orientation, disability, race, religion or belief, pregnancy and maternity, 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.
- Make sure that our uniform costs the same for all pupils.
- Allow all pupils to have long hair, although we reserve the right to ask that long hair be tied back.
- Allow pupils to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons, or if they are experiencing discomfort.
- Allow pupils to wear headscarves and/or other religious garments.
- Allow pupils with sensory or physical needs to make reasonable adaptations to their uniform, depending on their specific needs.
- Allow for reasonable adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking pupils or their parents/carers to get in touch with Mrs Willett, Pastoral and Inclusion Lead, who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests. These will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

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 (DfE) on the cost of school uniforms.

We understand that items with distinctive characteristics (such as branded items, or items that need to have a school logo attached or be in a unique fabric or style) cannot be purchased from a wide range of retailers, and that requiring many such items limits parents/carers' ability to shop around for the best price.

We will therefore make sure our uniform:

- Is available at a reasonable cost.

- Provides the best value for money for parents and carers.

We will do this by:

- Allowing branded or non-branded items to be worn
- Avoiding specific requirements for items such as coats, bags and shoes/trainers that pupils could also wear on non-school days.
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for different classes.
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities including (but not limited to) sport, music and drama.
- Making sure that opportunities to acquire second-hand items in a timely manner are accessible to parents and carers of both current and prospective pupils, and publishing this information on our website.
- Avoiding frequent changes to uniform specifications, and minimising the financial impact on parents/carers of any changes.
- Consulting with parents/carers and pupils on any proposed significant changes to the uniform policy, and carefully considering any complaints about uniform in line with the school's complaints policy.
- Avoiding single-supplier contracts, to make sure generic items can be purchased from a range of retailers.
- Continuing to review this policy, to ensure the cost of our uniform is reasonable and provides the best value for money.

4. Expectations for school uniform

4.1 Our school's uniform

- White or maroon t-shirt or blouse
- Navy, black or grey pinafore dress, skirt, shorts or trousers (no leggings)
- Maroon sweatshirt, cardigan, jumper – branded with logo or plain
- Red and white checked/striped summer dress
- Maroon fleece/coat (optional)
- Black shoes and/or ankle boots, no heels; if black trainers are worn, these must be plain black.

PE kit:

- Plain polo shirt or t-shirt (team colour – red, yellow or blue)
- Navy or black shorts
- Trainers suitable for indoor and outdoor use (preferably not plimsolls and different to main school shoes)
- Tracksuit for colder weather (no hoodies or logos)
- Swimming – swimming costume or swimming shorts/trunks

Hair:

- Long hair (shoulder length or longer) should be tied back at all times.
- Razor-cut hair patterns, hair dye and/or braids are not allowed.

Jewellery and make-up:

- Stud earrings only, no hoops. These must be removed for PE.
- Nail polish and false nails are not allowed.
- Watches can be worn (KS2), however smart watches are not permitted in school.

4.2 Where to purchase or acquire it

- Branded items can be purchased from Price Buckland: price-buckland.co.uk
- Plain items can be purchased from any retailer.
- Second-hand uniform is available in the school reception area.

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 school uniform and PE kit, and that every item is:

- Clean
- Clearly labelled with the child's name
- In good condition

Parents/carers are also expected to contact Mrs Willett 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/carers are expected to lodge any complaints or objections relating to the school uniform in a timely and reasonable manner in accordance with the school's complaints policy.

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/carers to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.

5.3 Staff

Staff will closely monitor pupils to make sure they are in correct uniform. They will give any pupils and families breaching the uniform policy the opportunity to comply, but will follow up with a member of SLT if the situation doesn't improve.

Ongoing breaches of our uniform policy will be dealt with by SLT.

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 and the pupil will not miss classroom teaching because of a sanction. This is in line with the statutory [guidance](#).

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/carers, and pupils
- Offers a uniform that is appropriate, practical and safe for all pupils

6. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed every 3 years, or as and when updates are required.