

Woodrush High School



Uniform Policy

Policy created / updated by

M Holtom-Brown, Deputy Headteacher

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N/A

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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 all pupils to style their hair in a way that is appropriate for school, and makes them feel most comfortable
- 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 pupils head of year 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:

- Following the statutory limits for compulsory branded items of uniform and PE kit to a maximum of:
 - Woodrush school blazer
 - Woodrush school Tie
 - Woodrush PE top
- Considering cheaper alternatives to compulsory 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 such as coats, bags and shoes/trainers that pupils could also wear on non-school days. See more information in section 4.1
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for different year/class/house groups.
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities including (but not limited to) sport, music and drama
- Avoiding requiring different branded items for particular times of the year, such as a branded dress in summer and a branded skirt in winter
- Considering alternative approaches, including loaning compulsory branded items such as sports kit for competitions
- 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

Please note that some of our uniform items are essential, optional or branded items only.
Please see code below:

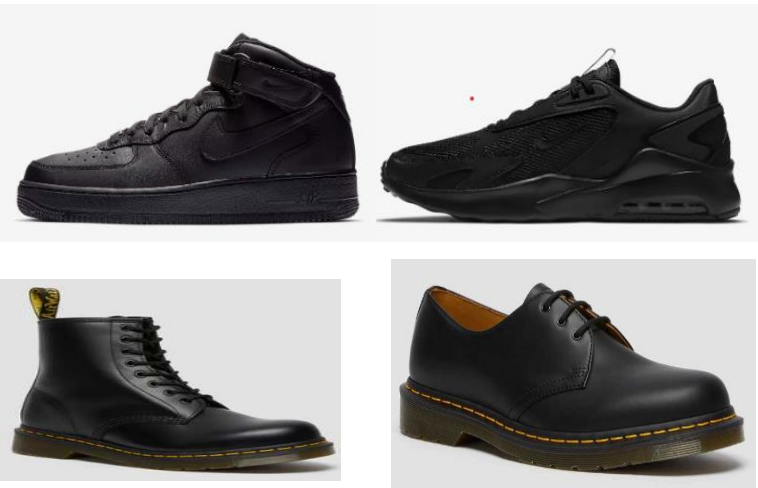
E – Essential, O – Optional, B – Branded item only

Key Uniform Expectations:

ALL CLOTHING AND PERSONAL BELONGINGS should be marked clearly with the owner's name.

Clothing	Expectation	E	O	B
SCHOOL BAG	All students should bring a black school bag (should be big enough to fit an A4 folder in) Small/ pouch bags are not allowed and will be confiscated if brought on school site.	Y		
BLAZERS	Students must wear a blazer at all times inside the classroom unless they have been given permission by a member of staff to remove their blazer.	Y		
SCHOOL TIES	All students in Year 7, 8, 9, 10 to wear a school tie – no open blouse shirts to be worn Optional: Students in Year 11 can continue to wear an open blouse. School ties must be worn at all times with the top button of the shirt fastened. *Academic year 2023-24 all students apart from Year 11 to wear a school tie Academic year 2024-25 all students to wear a school tie.	Y		Y
SHIRTS	White Long or short sleeved shirt. Shirts must have a full collar suitable for wearing a tie. Blouses, polo shirts, or open-neck styles are not permitted.	Y		

JUMPERS	The school jumper must be black and must be a V-neck. Tracksuit tops, Hoodies and Sweatshirts are not allowed in school.		Y	
COATS	Coats must be waterproof and either black or dark coloured. No denim, fur or leather jackets allowed. Coats must NOT be worn inside the classroom		Y	
SCHOOL SKIRTS	The green 'W' is no longer essential for school skirts. Skirts must be: • plain black, A line and pleated. • knee length (no higher than 2 inches above knee). Skirts must not be rolled up at waist. Available from Clive Marks/Monkhouse If you are unsure whether skirt is suitable please contact HOY or Engagement lead. 		Y	
SCHOOL TROUSERS	Students may wear black trousers of suit material (ie not stretch/lycra/jean material). No leggings allowed. Any visible appendages (i.e. gold zips) or logos on trousers are not allowed.		Y	
PE KIT	Woodrush PE top Black shorts/skort Black tracksuit bottoms/ sports leggings Woodrush Hoodie Woodrush Rugby top Sports trainers Football/rugby boots	Y Y	Y Y Y Y Y	Y Y Y

SHOES	Sensible flat shoes (no canvas/deck shoes/high top/steel toe or boots) are required for students, bearing in mind the staircases, carpeted areas and the need to negotiate outdoor pathways in inclement weather. Students wearing open-toed or high-heeled shoes will not be able to work in laboratories or technology rooms. Shoes will be plain, black and polishable. The following shoes are examples of what is not acceptable.  If you are unsure if shoe is acceptable, please contact the school before purchasing	Y		

MAKE-UP	In Key Stages 4 and 5 (Years 10, 11, 12 and 13) this should be appropriate to a professional working environment. Make-up should not be worn in Key Stage 3 (Years 7, 8 and 9). No false eyelashes
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JEWELLERY	One stud in each ear is permitted, no hoops/long earrings for health and safety reasons. No other visible body piercing is allowed. Other jewellery is not allowed for safety and security reasons. All jewellery should be confiscated and handed in to student services. JEL will log a C1 for uniform.
NAIL POLISH & EXTENSIONS	Students should not wear any coloured nail polish or any form of nail extensions eg: Acrylics. All form tutors will ask students to remove the nail polish with nail polish remover. Should your child wish to wear acrylic nails during the holidays please ensure that they are removed before their return to school. Any student wearing acrylics will be out of circulation during break & lunchtime until nails have been removed.
HAIRSTYLES	Should be appropriate to a professional working environment e.g. no extreme styles or colours and no brightly coloured braiding or hairbands/ clips.

Summer Term Uniform Adjustments Policy

During the Summer Term, students are permitted to remove their blazers during periods of warm weather. Blazers must, however, continue to be worn for line-up and assemblies unless otherwise directed.

On exceptionally hot days, the school may allow students to attend school wearing their PE kits. This decision will be made by the school and communicated in advance. Parents/carers and students will be informed of any temporary uniform adjustments via email and the Arbor Parent Portal.

Physical Education (PE) Expectations

PE is a compulsory subject and all students are expected to participate in every lesson. Students must change into the correct PE kit for each session.

Students who are injured or medically restricted are still required to change and will take part in an appropriate alternative role as directed by the teacher. PE lessons take place in all weather conditions unless it is unsafe to do so.

Where a student is unable to change for PE due to additional needs, alternative arrangements may be agreed in advance with the SEND or Pastoral team as part of the school's reasonable adjustments.

For Health and safety purposes, hair should be tied back and all jewelry removed

Failure to change or participate without agreed arrangements will be managed in line with the school's behaviour policy.

4.2 Where to purchase or acquire it

Uniform can be purchased from the following high-street retailers:

Monkhouse: 1 Mell Square, Solihull, West Midlands, B91 3AZ

[Get Them Ready for School with Our Quality School Uniform, Essentials and Accessories | Shop at Your Local Monkhouse Store | Trusted School Uniform Supplier](#)

Clive Marks: 38-40 Poplar Road, Kings Heath, Birmingham, B14 7AD

[School Uniforms & Accessories | Clive Mark](#)

Non-branded items can be purchased from a range of retailers for example: Sainsburys, Asda, tescos and amazon.

Second hand uniform

Secondhand uniforms can be obtained from school throughout the academic year and will also be available at key events, for example transition evenings. Please contact your child's pastoral team.

If your child does not have the correct uniform during the day, student services will be able to loan any missing items. Students will need to hand in a mobile phone or other item which will be given back to them when returning the item.

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 their pastoral team 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/carers are also expected to contact child's pastoral team 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 the headteacher if the situation doesn't improve.

Ongoing breaches of our uniform policy will be dealt with inline with our school behaviour policy.

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

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 annually by Mel Holtom- Brown (Deputy Head teacher) At every review, it will be approved by **the full governing board**.

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

- Behaviour policy
- Anti-bullying policy
- Complaints policy

