

# Falconhurst School

## School uniform policy



**Approved by:**

Louise Aird

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**Next review due by:**

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## 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

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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 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 gender, 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/coverings
- Allow for adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking pupils or their parents to get in touch with the Head Teacher 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
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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 advising families that uniform with the school logo are non-statutory.
- Considering cheaper alternatives to school-branded items, such as non-branded clothing
- Avoiding specific requirements for items pupils could wear on non-school days, such as coats and bags
- Carefully consider how footwear requirements support families by being of a style which can be worn on non-school days
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for different year groups and phases
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities
- Making sure that arrangements are in place for parents to acquire second-hand or 'pre-loved' 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

Winter Uniform	Summer Uniform In addition to the Winter Uniform, pupils may also wear
White shirt (short or long sleeve) or White Polo Top (logo optional)	Blue checked summer dress
Navy Blue sweatshirt, jumper or cardigan (logo optional)	Tailored Grey Shorts
Grey or Black trousers, skirt or pinafore dress	PE Kit
White, Grey or Black socks or tights	Plain Blue T-Shirt (logo optional)
Black flat shoes or <b>plain</b> black trainers, flat boots with minimal decoration (buckles, tassels etc..) may be worn in extreme weather.	Dark trainers for outside PE & Black pumps for indoor.
Warm coat or fleece (Navy blue logo'd fleece optional)	Plain Navy Jogging Bottoms
Hijab of any appropriate plain colour	Plain Navy Shorts
School bag or book bag (branded optional)	Blue outdoor hoodie or jumper
	One-piece swimsuit (can be skirted or short wetsuit style) or shorts for swimming ( <i>do not purchase until swimming lessons commence</i> )

Jewellery should not be worn to school unless for cultural or religious reasons. Earrings should be limited to one pair only. Ear studs should be covered with tape or removed during PE for health and Safety reasons and children should avoid wearing hoop earrings.

Hair should be neat, tidy and of a natural colour for children. Long hair (which is acceptable for all pupils) should be tied back whilst in school to avoid the risk of being caught by another child or home to headlice.

Bobbles and hairbands should be of an appropriate size – oversized bows, tiaras, hair bands with large decorations are not appropriate and must not be worn.

## 4.2 Where to purchase it

Uniform can be bought from our providers Maisies who are based in Wolverton or Tesco online. They hold all of our uniform in stock in their shop on Church Street and their website <http://www.maisies-superstore.co.uk> provides a one stop online shop for all your needs. For families who do not wish to purchase uniform with a logo any supermarket or high street shop generally stocks a wide range of tops, jumpers, cardigans and bottoms for children of all ages.

We also hold a selection of pre-loved uniform in school. Families can chat to a member of staff in the School Office about accessing this.

## 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 Head Teacher 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 are also expected to contact the Head Teacher 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 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

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 by the Pastoral Support Team and the Head Teacher who will seek to understand why the breaches are occurring. We would wish to find a solution to the breach wherever possible. For example, 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 every 5 years by the Head Teacher. At every review, it will be approved by the Head Teacher and reported to the Full Governing Board

## **7. Links to other policies**

This policy is linked to our:

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