

School uniform policy

Luddenham School



EVERY CHILD CAN ACHIEVE

| | | |
|----------------------------|--|--------------------------|
| Written by: | Claire Vincett | Date: Autumn 2025 |
| Last reviewed on: | Autumn 2025 | |
| Next review due by: | Autumn 2028 | |
| Changes | Use of the word required for section 4 | |

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 age, sex, 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 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, if reaches or passes the shoulders)
- › Allow all pupils to style their hair in a way that is appropriate for school and makes them feel most comfortable
- › Allow pupils to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons or if they are experiencing discomfort related to their sex, gender or gender reassignment
- › 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 to get in touch with Claire Vincett, Headteacher, 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 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.
- › Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost and/or long-lasting items, such as ties
- › 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 required school uniform

- › Navy Sweatshirt, cardigan or fleece with or without the school logo
- › Navy Polo shirt with or without the school logo
- › Grey trousers, skirts or pinafore and tartan skirts
- › Grey shorts or blue/white summer dress
- › Black shoes (no trainers or boots) (Note: boots can be worn in extreme weather, but changed once in school to shoes)
- › Expectations for PE and swimming kit
 - House Team coloured T-shirt or white t-shirt
 - Dark Blue shorts
 - Trainers or plimsolls
 - Plain black/blue Tracksuit, leggings or fleece (Avoid hoodies as these can get caught on equipment)
- › Expectations for jewellery and hairstyles

- Long hair that meets or passes the shoulders should be tied up
- Small stud earrings may be worn but must be removed for PE lessons.
- Watches may be worn, ideally non-smart watches, but if a smart watch is worn, it must be used only as a watch.
- Make up and nail varnish should not be worn.

4.2 Where to purchase it

Rivals
116 West Street
Faversham
Kent
ME13 7JB
01795 590473

<https://www.rivalschoolwear.co.uk/>

Forsters School Uniform Shop
17-19 East Street
Sittingbourne
Kent
ME10 4BQ
01795 472947
www.forsterskent.co.uk

Brigade - online shop
<https://www.brigade.uk.com/parents/school/LU8653PD/>

› Information about second-hand uniform, for example:

- our current LSFA have a second-hand shop for families who would like to purchase good quality second hand uniform for a small donation. Please contact the school office for more information.

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 Claire Vincett, 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 are also expected to contact Claire Vincett, 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 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 either through conversation or the issue of a uniform reminder slip, but will follow up with the headteacher if the situation doesn't improve.

Ongoing breaches of our uniform policy will be dealt with by Claire Vincett, Headteacher.

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 Trustees

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 3 years by Claire Vincett, Headteacher. At every review, it will be approved by either the full governing body or a nominated trustee.

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

- › Behaviour policy
- › Equality information and objectives statement
- › Anti-bullying policy
- › Complaint's policy
- › Health and Safety Policy