

Weatherhead High School

A high performing academy providing excellence for all

School Uniform Policy

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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 sex, to give all students 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 students
- Allow all students to have long hair (though we reserve the right to ask for this to be tied back)
- Allow students to wear headscarves if it forms part of their religion
- Allow for adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking students or their parents to get in touch with the Assistant Headteacher, Student Services, 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 blazer, worn over the jumper, features the school logo
- Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost or long-lasting items
- 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 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

Unless otherwise stated, uniform items are available from a wide range of retailers including FUSS, the Free Uniform for Secondary Schools service, for families who need it.

Our school uniform includes the following:

Jacket	Bespoke jacket designed for Weatherhead; the jacket is only available to buy from Baker & Son Schoolwear via our website.
Jumper/Cardigan	Our uniform is not seasonal but some students may choose to add a jumper/cardigan to their uniform during the winter months; it can also be worn all year round if preferred. A plain dark navy blue V-neck jumper or cardigan. This is an optional item. A Weatherhead branded dark navy blue V-neck jumper is available to buy from Baker & Son Schoolwear, however this is an optional item.
Skirt	Dark navy blue skirt. Skirt must be a reasonable length i.e. knee length. PE/Gymslip style skirts are not allowed. Straight pencil style skirts are not allowed.
Trousers	Dark navy blue smart trousers (not black, denim, leggings or jogging pants style).
Blouse	White, short sleeve, open necked (revere) blouse. No tie.
Socks	Plain – Navy, black or white socks or tights. Socks with bows, frills or lace are not allowed.
Shoes	Sensible, low heeled, plain black school shoe with no accessories, adornments or bows of any kind. No pumps, trainers or boots (including Kicker boots).
PE Kit	Branded PE Polo top, shorts and other items can be ordered online from Baker & Son Schoolwear. However, non-branded items are also available from other retailers and branded/non-branded items are available from FUSS , the Free Uniform for Secondary School service, for families who need it.

Additional expectations:

Hair	One natural colour. No extreme hair styles are allowed (this includes partially or totally shaved hair). No bows are to be worn as accessories.
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Jewellery	One pair of discreet stud earrings in the lower ear only. One wrist watch. No iWatch or other smart watch device. No facial, tongue or body piercings are allowed for health and safety reasons. One plain ring only. No necklaces or bracelets.
Make Up	Make up should be kept to a minimum. No nail varnish is allowed. No false/acrylic nails are allowed. No false eyelashes allowed.

4.2 Where to purchase it

Our Jacket and other branded items are available online via the link on our website:

<https://weatherheadhigh.co.uk/school-information/school-uniform/>

Non-branded items are available from other retailers/high street stores, uniform shop and also from FUSS, the Free Uniform for Secondary School service. Wirral FUSS is a voluntary organisation that works to encourage FREE distribution of school uniform in good condition for re-use by families who need it, without judgement of circumstances; as well as the recycling of worn out uniform.

If you require uniform, you can contact WirralFUSS by email at uniform@wirralfuss.co.uk or telephone 07731 831 936, or you can make a request using the online form on their website.

The Hub that will hold stocks of Weatherhead High School uniform for collection is located at St Luke's Methodist Church in Hoylake (they hope to have a Wallasey base in the near future). The Hub is staffed and open for collecting or exchanging items from 9.30am to 12.30pm every Wednesday and by appointment. In some cases, it may be possible to arrange delivery of requested items.

5. Expectations for our school community

5.1 Students

Students 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)

Students are also expected to contact the Assistant Headteacher, Student Services if they want to discuss or 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 Assistant Headteacher, Student Services if they want to discuss or 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 students to make sure they are in correct uniform. They will give any students and families breaching the uniform policy the opportunity to comply, but will follow up with the Assistant Headteacher, Student Services if the situation doesn't improve.

Ongoing breaches of our uniform policy will be dealt with in line with our Behaviour Policy.

In cases where it is suspected that financial hardship has resulted in a student not complying with this uniform policy, staff will take a mindful and considerate approach to resolving the situation.

5.4 Governors

The governing body 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 students

The Governors will also make sure that the school's uniform supplier arrangements give the highest priority to cost and value for money.

6. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed every two years. At every review, it will be approved by the Finance & Resources Committee.

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

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