

School Uniform Policy



Wistaston Academy
Primary and Nursery School
Together We Learn • Together We Achieve

Policy Author	Dominique Griffiths, Principal
Responsible Governor's Committee	Quality of Education
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Frequency of Review	Review in light of changes to legislation or operating experience

CHANGE CONTROL

[illegible]

School Uniform Policy

Rationale

The compulsory wearing of school uniform for all children attending Wistaston Academy has been discussed and agreed with the children, staff, and Trustees.

A school uniform reinforces in pupils a pride in their appearance, instils recognition of themselves as an integral part of the school community, and helps develop pride in representing their school. Issues of equality, health and safety, and cost are also factors that contribute to this policy.

In line with the Department for Education (DfE) guidance on the cost of school uniforms (2021, updated 2023), Wistaston Academy is committed to ensuring that our uniform:

- Is affordable and offers value for money for all families;
- Avoids unnecessary branded or bespoke items, keeping branded uniform items to a minimum;
- Can be easily purchased from multiple retailers, not solely from one supplier;
- Reflects our commitment to equality, inclusivity, and sustainability.

We also recognise that some pupils may have additional needs or specific circumstances requiring reasonable adjustments to uniform expectations. These will be discussed and agreed between home, school, and the young person to ensure that barriers to attendance and learning are removed, while preserving the child's sense of belonging and the benefits of a shared uniform identity.

Benefits of a School Uniform

The school believes the following are key benefits of wearing uniform:

- Provides families with the opportunity to purchase economical, durable, and practical clothing items.
- Improves school tone and atmosphere and helps develop a sense of pride and identification with the school.
- Reduces peer pressure and competition over clothing choices, supporting equality among pupils.
- Prepares children for future school and workplace expectations.
- Assists with student identification and safety in public places.
- Maintains the high public and community regard for the school and its students.

Implementation

Seasonal uniforms (summer and winter) and sports uniform are required to be worn during school hours, when travelling to and from school, and when representing the school at events. Pupils representing the school for any event must wear full school uniform.

Jewellery and Personal Appearance

- Only watches and small stud earrings are permitted.
- Jewellery (including metal or plastic ear studs) must be removed for PE and sporting activities for safety reasons.

- If earrings cannot be removed (e.g. newly pierced ears within the six-week healing period), they must be covered with medical tape before PE lessons.
- Staff cannot apply or remove tape for pupils; this should be done at home.
- Hair must be neat and appropriate for school. Extreme hairstyles or unnatural colours are not permitted.
- Long hair should be tied back for safety. Only small, plain hair accessories may be worn.
- Makeup, false nails, and coloured nail polish are not permitted.
- Pupils are encouraged to wear a summer cap in hot weather.
- All clothing must be clean, in good repair, and appropriately fitted.

Uniform List

Wistaston Academy Uniform:

- White polo shirt
- Grey or black tailored trousers, shorts, or knee-length skirt*
- Grey or black pinafore dress or green gingham summer dress
- Dark green sweatshirt, cardigan, or fleece (school-branded optional)
- Black school shoes (or closed toe sandals in warmer weather) – no flip-flops or heeled shoes

***Note: Tube skirts, cycling shorts, and leggings are not permitted as main uniform items.**

Sports/PE Uniform

- Dark green crew-neck t-shirt
- Black shorts
- Black jogging bottoms/sports leggings or tracksuit
- Trainers (and black pumps for indoor use)

Affordability and Access

In accordance with DfE cost guidance, Wistaston Academy ensures:

- The number of items requiring a school logo is kept to a minimum.
- Families can purchase most items from high street retailers or supermarkets.
- The school reviews uniform supplier contracts regularly to ensure value for money.

Exemptions and Adjustments

Parents or carers seeking exemptions or adjustments to the uniform policy for reasons of:

- Religious beliefs or cultural background,
- Disability or medical conditions, or
- Economic hardship,

should discuss their circumstances with the school leadership. Reasonable adjustments will be made in consultation with the family and in line with the Equality Act 2010.

Non-Compliance with Uniform Expectations

- If a pupil attends school without the correct uniform, parents will be contacted.
- Where possible, the school will loan alternative uniform items for the day.

- Persistent or unexplained non-compliance will be addressed in line with the school's behaviour and inclusion policies, ensuring that no child is discriminated against or excluded for genuine hardship reasons.

Monitoring and Review

The governing body will review this policy annually to ensure compliance with the latest DfE statutory guidance, affordability considerations, and community feedback.