Archers Brook SEMH Residential School

Uniform Policy

Approved by:	Pupil Inclusion	**Date:**	October 2026
Last reviewed by:	Samantha Myers-Whittaker	**Date:**	July 2026
New review due:	July 2030		

Introduction

It is our policy that all students wear school uniform when attending school, or when participating in a school-organised event. Our policy regarding school uniform is based on the belief that school uniform:

- engenders a sense of community and belonging towards the school;
- is practical and smart;
- identifies the students with the school;
- is fair and makes students feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance and removes peer pressure to dress in 'designer' fashions;
- is regarded as suitable wear for school and good value for money by most parents/carers;
- can assist identification of strangers on school premises;
- is designed with health and safety in mind.

Second Hand Uniform

Parents are able to donate any uniform, that is still in good condition, to School. This uniform will then be supplied to other families should they require it.

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 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 to school yet makes them feel most comfortable
- Allow pupils to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons
- For the purpose of religion or faith allow pupils to wear headscarves and other religious or cultural symbols
- Allow for adaptions to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking pupils or their parents to get in touch with Mrs Myers-Whittaker 0151 832 6600, who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests.

Uniform Requirements

- Sky blue polo, with School logo
- Black skirt, black trousers or black cargo style trousers or plain black leggings
- Navy sweatshirt with School logo
- Navy blue 'V' necked cardigan with School logo
- Plain white, navy, black or dark socks or plain tights
- Black shoes or black trainers
- Black or grey School or combat style shorts (Summer only)

Shorts or skirts will be worn no higher than calf mid length. Refusal to conform to this will be dealt with as non-uniform.

PE Kit

Pupils are not required to get changed for PE; this is entirely optional with facilities are available if a pupil prefers to change.

We advocate this approach due to the fact there are many children and young people on roll who find changing for PE quite stressful (given their additional SEND and/or associated anxieties that may exist).

Non-compliance with the School Uniform Policy

The enforcement of the decision to adopt a school uniform is the responsibility of the Head of School as part of their overall responsibility for the day-to-day running of the school.

We have a 'zero tolerance' approach to incidents of non-compliance with our School Uniform Policy. In the event of any student arriving at school without the correct uniform:

- First occasion - School has a limited supply of spare items to lend to students, if available these items will be lent to the student for the day.

- Second occasion - The student will spend their break and lunchtime out of circulation with a member for SLT.

- Third occasion – The student will be sent home and parents will be expected to bring them back in wearing uniform.

Jewellery
For reasons of health and safety we only allow students to wear modest jewellery in our School.

Watches may be worn.

Medical alert tags must be worn at all times.

If students refuse to remove jewellery this will be treated as an act of defiance and an appropriate sanction will be issued.

Accessories
Only badges of merit or office, awarded by the school, may be worn as part of the school uniform. We request that school bags, face coverings and belts are sensible and in keeping with the rest of the school uniform. Coats and school bags must be left in form rooms.

Footwear
We believe that it is dangerous for students to wear shoes that have platform soles or high heels. For reasons of health and safety we do not allow them to be worn in our school. Black/dark trainers can be worn.

Make-up
Should be discrete and nails a sensible length.

The Role of Parents/Carers
We ask all parents and carers who send their children to our school to support the school uniform policy. We believe that they have a duty to send their children to school correctly dressed and ready for their daily schoolwork. It is their responsibility to ensure that their child has the correct uniform and that it is clean and in good repair. We will always procure the most reasonable cost available to us and pre-owned items will be made available.

Current Trends
We reserve the right to respond to current trends

Non-uniform Days/Enrichment Activities
Clothing must be suitable for a learning environment e.g. No cropped tops or excessively ripped jeans and no inappropriate logos. No excessively short clothing or especially tight clothing.