THE DORMSTON SCHOOL
Uniform Policy

Date	Review date	Lead	Nominated Governor or Committee
01.09.2026	01.09.2029	Headteacher Pastoral	Chairs action
			Ratified: Yes
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			Website: Yes

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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 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)
- 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 to accommodate religious beliefs, cultural requirements and special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) to comply with the Equality Act 2010. Pupils or their parents/carers should get in touch with the child's Year Leader (initial /surname of Year Leader@dormston.dudley.sch.uk), 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 (DfE) on the cost of school uniform.

We understand that items with distinctive characteristics (such as branded items, or items that need 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/carers' 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 plain black tracksuit bottoms, 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 leveller
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for different year/class/house groups
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities
- Considering alternative methods for signalling differences in groups for interschool competitions, such as creating posters or labels
- Making sure that arrangements are in place for parents/carers to acquire second-hand uniform items
- Avoiding frequent changes to uniform specifications and minimising the financial impact on parents/carers of any changes
- Consulting with parents/carers 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 – Please refer to our uniform poster on the school website

- ✓ Dark grey trousers or skirt (¾ way down thigh) - material must be 'Trutex grey' and not stretchy or tight fitting). Tights should be worn with skirts. Pupils failing to meet these requirements may be subject to a skirt ban.
- ✓ Light blue shirt compulsory for all Key Stage 3. If buying new, please buy blue. Lilac blouses (from uniform suppliers only) or dark grey shirt (Trutex); all shirts can be long or short sleeved.
- ✓ Navy 'v' necked jumper with school logo. House logo optional but not required. ***(from uniform suppliers only).***
- ✓ Jumpers should not be tucked in.
- ✓ School tie (**from uniform suppliers only).**
- ✓ Footwear should be black leather, lace up or slip on shoes (no trainers including trainer style shoes, boots or canvas shoes). Note: you must be able to polish the shoes. Shoes with visible logos are unacceptable.
- ✓ Black, navy, grey or white socks, black or natural tights.
- ✓ Plain black, navy, dark grey outdoor coat (no leather, denim or fur coats. Hooded tops and body warmers are not permitted).

Summer uniform: (optional for summer term only)

- ✓ Purple polo shirt with school logo, house logo optional but not required. **(from uniform suppliers only).**
- ✓ Knee length tailored shorts (Trutex Grey). No cargo/PE shorts.

PE Kit - For all PE lessons pupils must have the minimum of; a PE tops, shorts, socks and trainers.

- ✓ Black/purple polo PE top with logo (from uniform suppliers only).
- ✓ Plain black sports shorts (**Not** tight fitting /short cycling shorts) or plain black tracksuit bottoms/jogging bottoms (any make).
- ✓ Plain black sports socks (any make).
- ✓ Trainers (any colour or make permitted).

Optional:

- ✓ Black / purple ¼ zip long sleeved training top with logo (from uniform suppliers only).
- ✓ Black/purple leggings (from uniform suppliers only).
- ✓ Footaball boots are advisable (no metal studs).

Further points:

- o Jewellery: one ring, one watch, one bracelet and one stud in each ear lobe are allowed, if a nose piercing it must be a clear stud, necklaces must not be visible.
- o No other piercings are permitted.
- o Hair dyed in fashion colours are not allowed. Extreme styles (eg. Tramlines/shaved in patterns/ lines/ less than grade 2/ holiday style braids) are not allowed.

- Natural looking, discreet make up only. Natural eyelashes. Clear/nude nail varnish, no glitter/gems/nail art.
- A sturdy bag/rucksack is required which all school equipment to be placed in.

Please note that the school reserves the right to make additional/changes to this list at any time at the discretion of the Head Teacher.

4.2 Where to purchase it

Uniform can be purchased from the following retailers;

- Abbiss (Wombourne)
- Bilston Market (Wolverhampton)
- Crested (Dudley and Wolverhampton)
- Wards School and Workwear
- Friends of Dormston Community Pre-Loved Service (The Dormston School)*

  *Please email kotton@dormston.dudley.sch.uk to access the Pre-Loved service. Donations can be dropped off at reception at any point throughout the year.

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 their Year Leader 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/carers are also expected to contact their child's Year Leader, (initial /surname of Year Leader@dormston.dudley.sch.uk) if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to:

- Their child's protected characteristics

- The cost of the uniform
- To confidently request financial support for uniform

Parents/carers 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/carers 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 Deputy Head of Pastoral if the situation doesn't improve.

Ongoing breaches of our uniform policy will be dealt with by following our Positive Behaviour Policy.

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/carers 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 the Deputy Head Teacher of Pastoral, unless changes have been made which justify an immediate update. At every review, it will be approved by the Chair in the first instance, followed by the full governing board.

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

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

Dormston SCHOOL

Knowledge is Strength

UNIFORM

- ✓ Dark grey trousers or skirt (knee length) – material must be 'Trutex grey' and not stretchy or tight fitting
- ✓ Light blue shirt; shirts can be long or short sleeved
- ✓ Navy 'V' necked jumper with school logo. House logo optional but not required (from uniform suppliers only)
- ✓ Jumpers should not be tucked in
- ✓ School tie from uniform suppliers
- ✓ Footwear should be black leather; lace up or slip on shoes (no trainers including trainer style shoes, boots or canvas shoes.) NOTE you must be able to polish the shoes. Shoes with visible logos are unacceptable
- ✓ Black, navy, grey or white socks, black tights
- ✓ Plain black/navy/dark grey outdoor coat (no leather, denim or fur coats. Hooded tops and body warmers are not permitted)
- ✓ Summer Uniform (optional for summer term only)
- ✓ Purple polo with school logo, house logo optional but not required (from uniform suppliers only.) Knee length tailored shorts (Trutex Grey). No cargo/PE shorts

PE KIT

BASIC COMPULSORY PE KIT

FOR ALL PE LESSONS PUPILS MUST HAVE AS A MINIMUM:

- ✓ Black/Purple Polo PE Top with logo (from uniform suppliers only)
- ✓ Plain Black Shorts- **NOT** tight fitting or Plain Black tracksuit bottoms /jogging bottoms
- ✓ Plain Black sports socks (any make)
- ✓ Trainers (any colour or make permitted)

OPTIONAL EXTRA KIT

Black /Purple leggings (from uniform suppliers only)

Black / Purple ¼ zip long sleeved training top with logo (from uniform suppliers only)

Football boots are advisable (no metal studs)

FURTHER POINTS

- Jewellery: one ring, one watch, one bracelet and one stud in each ear lobe are allowed, if a nose piercing it must be a clear stud, necklaces should not be visible
- No other piercings are permitted
- Hair dyed in fashion colours are not allowed. No extreme styles
- Natural looking, discreet make up only. Natural eyelashes. Clear/nude nail varnish, no glitter/gems/nail art
- A sturdy bag/rucksack is required in which all school equipment should be placed

Please note that the school reserves the right to make additions/changes to this list at any time at the discretion of the Head Teacher

Five local uniform providers: Abbiss (Wombourne), Bilston Market (Wolverhampton) Crested (Dudley & Wolverhampton), Wards School & Workwear, Friends of Dormston Community Pre-Loved Service