



Greenvale School School Uniform Policy

**Signed: March 2022
Next Review date: March 2025**

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1. Aims

This policy aims to:

- Set out our approach to providing 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 all students to style their hair in the way that is appropriate for school yet makes them feel most comfortable
- Allow students to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons
- Allow students to wear headscarves and other religious or cultural symbols
- Allow for adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking students or their parents to get in touch with Aaron Collins, who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests

3. Limiting the cost of school uniform

- By ensuring that the wearing of school uniform is optional
- Suppliers are sought with quality and cost in mind
- The school will make no profit
- Items will cost the same, regardless of size

Greenvale School has an **optional uniform**. This means that those who choose can wear it and those that choose not to, do not have to wear it. Feedback from the student council indicated that they would like a uniform and because of this, it was made available.

Our school has a duty to make sure that the uniform is affordable and in line with statutory [guidance](#) from the Department for Education on the cost of school uniform.

We understand that items with the school logo 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, therefore, the wearing of uniform is optional.

We will make sure our uniform:

- Is available at a reasonable cost
- Optional
- Provides the best value for money for parents/carers

We will do this by:

- Communicating to parents that uniform is not mandatory
- Not having any items with distinctive characteristics apart from items with the logo.

- Not having different uniform requirements for different year/class
- Not having different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities
- 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 students 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

As mentioned before, our uniform is optional. There is no requirement to wear it.

4.2 Where to purchase it

- Our School uniform is available to buy direct from the school. Information can be found on the school website. Parents can contact the school for an order form, or simply call the school and ask for more information.
 - Parents are encouraged to return uniform that they no longer need, provided it is in reasonable condition. This will then be kept aside and given to families in need that request it.

5. Expectations for our school community

5.1 Students

Where appropriate, students are expected to communicate their choice on whether they wish to wear school uniform or not. Depending on ability, they will also be encouraged to make the right choices on what to wear, whilst taking into consideration the weather and activities they will be taking part in during their school day.

5.2 Parents and carers

Parents and carers are expected to make sure their child attends school appropriately dressed for the school day. Clothes should be

- Clean
- Appropriate for the weather and for communicated activities for the day i.e. swimming/Trampoline sessions/outdoor education classes etc.

Parents are also encouraged to contact Aaron Collins (DHT) if they want to discuss any aspect of the policy or uniform available if they believe:

- The cost of the uniform means it is unattainable
- It is in contravention of their child's protected characteristics

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 support those students that choose to wear uniform to do so correctly. They will also encourage all students to dress appropriately, to make choices and to use it as a learning opportunity to help them be as independent as possible.

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 students
- Offers a uniform that is appropriate, practical and safe for all students

The Governing Body 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 three years by Aaron Collins. At every review, it will be approved by the full governing body/ESS Committee.

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

- Equality information and objectives statement
- Complaints policy

Signed.....

Dated