



FOREST HILL SCHOOL

SCHOOL UNIFORM

Date of Policy: February 2022

Key document details			
Author:	Director of Strategy & Resources	Approver:	Governing Body
Review date:	February 2024	Version No.	1
Agreed date:	February 2022	Next review date:	February 2024
Distribution:	School Website		

Contents

1. Aims	2
2. Our school's legal duties under the Equality Act 2010.....	2
3. Limiting the cost of school uniform	3
4. Expectations for school uniform	3
5. Expectations for our school community	5
6. Monitoring arrangements	7
7. Links to other policies	7

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 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 for school yet makes them feel most comfortable
- Allow pupils to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons
- Allow pupils to wear headscarves and other religious or cultural symbols
- Allow for adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking pupils or their parents to get in touch with the Headteacher – headteacher@foresthillschool.co.uk, 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, only the blazer, worn over the jumper, has to feature the school logo
- Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost or long-lasting items, such as ties
- Considering cheaper alternatives to school-branded items, such as logos that can be ironed on, 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 leveler
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for different year/class/house 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 At Forest Hill School, uniform is a key part of the school and individual House ethos. Students may be sent home if they are not in the correct uniform.

The school only requires parents to purchase two branded items – the school blazer (badge ??) and the School House tie.

The uniform list is as follows;

- Blazer Plain black
- Trousers Plain black tailored trousers, not lightweight Jeans, Cords or Cargo trousers
- Shirt Plain white, not polo style
- Pullover Plain black – V neck only
- Branded School Tie - House Colour Tie
- Shoes Plain black shoes i.e. of the type that can be polished, no trainers and no shoes that look like trainers. No coloured stitching or laces
- Coat Outdoor coat may only be worn on top of the blazer.
- Hooded tops and baseball caps are forbidden and will be confiscated.
- Badge Sewn on blazer pocket
- House Flash Sewn immediately above the badge, (this will be provided by the Head of House)
- Jewellery One small stud and a watch are permitted. No rings, chains, bracelets.
- School bag Suitable strong material, wearable and large enough to carry books without folding
- Apron For Design and Technology and Art

PE Kit

Students are expected to wear/have the following for indoor PE (sports hall/gymnasium):

- Trainers
- White socks
- White T-shirt
- White shorts
- Table tennis bat

Students are expected to wear/have the following for outdoor games sessions:

- Black shorts
- Long black socks
- Football boots
- Games shirt (Reversible – one side all black, other side black with broad house colour band)
- Gum shield for rugby
- Shin pads for football

All clothing must be clearly marked with name and tutor group to assist with identification if mislaid.

House Colours

Ofusu-Asare – Red

Turing – Yellow

Parks – Light Blue

Tull – Green

4.2 Where to purchase it

Uniform can be purchased from:

1. Bailwood, 246 Lewisham High Street, Lewisham, London, SE13

www.bailwood.co.uk

2. Wearabouts, 99 Sydenham Road, Sydenham, SE26 – Contact

<http://wearaboutsschoolwear.co.uk>

3. White Hall Clothiers, 244A, High Street, Lewisham, SE13

www.whitehallclothiers.co.uk

Alternatively, parents may decide to purchase unbranded items at any high street store.

Second-hand uniform is also available via the school office.

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 the Headteacher, headteacher@foresthillschool.co.uk, 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 are also expected to contact the Headteacher, headteacher@foresthillschool.co.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

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 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 headteacher if the situation doesn't improve.

Ongoing breaches of our uniform policy will be dealt with by detentions as outlined in the school's 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 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 two years by the Director of Strategy & Resources. At every review, it will be approved by the full governing board.

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

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