



**BEECHVIEW ACADEMY**

# **School Uniform Policy**

**Reviewed: September 2023**

**Next Review: September 2026**

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## **Beechview Academy School Uniform Policy**

It is our school policy that all children wear school uniform when attending school, or when participating in a school-organised event outside normal school hours. We provide a complete list of the items needed for school uniform on our school website and a list is supplied as an appendix to this policy.

### **1. Aims and Objectives**

Our policy on school uniform is based on the notion that school uniform:

- promotes a sense of pride in the school;
- engenders a sense of community and belonging towards the school;
- is practical, affordable and smart;
- identifies the children with the school;
- prevents children from coming to school in fashion clothes that could be distracting in class;
- makes children feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance;
- is regarded as suitable wear for school and good value for money by most parents;
- is designed with health and safety in mind.
- Clarify our expectations for school uniform
- Explain how we will avoid discrimination in line with our legal duties under the Equality Act 2010

### **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 reasonable and 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 on the grounds of equality by asking pupils or their parents to get in touch with the Office Manager, who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests. These will be considered on a case-by-case basis and at the headteacher's discretion.

### **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
- 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 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 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 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**

Our school's uniform

The following items comprise our school uniform. The uniform can have the school logo on or be plain as long as the colours are adhered to:

- Dark grey/black skirt, pinafore or trousers (No leggings)
- Grey, White or black socks/tights
- Mid grey trousers/shorts
- White shirt/polo shirt (long or short sleeve)
- School dark green cardigan, jumper or sweatshirt
- School tie (Compulsory)
- Plain black (Velcro, buckle or lace up) shoes or sandals. Trainers are not encouraged but plain black ones will be tolerated (no branding/patterns or colour allowed). Sensible black school shoes should have a heel less than 5cm.

Summer alternative

- White polo shirts

- Green gingham dress
- Grey or black shorts
- Ties are not compulsory on really hot days

Our school PE kit comprises the following items:

- Plain black or dark green shorts or trousers
- Plain white, deep green or Beechview t-shirt
- White or black socks
- Plimsolls or trainers
- Plain black or deep green tracksuit in cold weather
- Beechview jumper or sweatshirt

Swimming:

- An appropriate swimsuit safeguarding the privacy of the wearer.
- Swimming cap
- Towel

Changes to swimwear for religious reasons or if individuals are experiencing discomfort related to their sex, gender or gender reassignment reasonable adaptations will be allowed at the headteacher's discretion and dealt with on a case by case basis.

### **Uniform Availability**

Our school uniform is supplied by PMG schoolwear which can be ordered online.

[PMG Schoolwear Pricing Leaflet 2022](#)

Other suppliers can be used, such as supermarkets, as long as the colours are adhered to.

Contact details for suppliers:

PMG Schoolwear, [www.pmg-schoolwear.co.uk](http://www.pmg-schoolwear.co.uk) or Tel: 01895 809321

### **Jewellery**

- In accordance with the Local Authority requirements on health and safety, we do not allow children to wear jewellery.
- The exceptions to this rule are small, simple studs in pierced ears but children must be able to remove them themselves or have them taped over; small objects of religious significance or wristwatches. "Smart" watches are strictly prohibited.
- Any item of jewellery must be removed for P.E and games activities. Any loss or damage is the responsibility of the parent/carer of the child. Any legal liability arising from an accident involving a child wearing jewellery to school or expensive jewellery will be the responsibility of the parent/carer of the child.
- If children do attend school with jewellery, they will be asked to remove objects before Physical Education lessons or any other lessons where the wearing of such items constitutes a potential safety risk. Teachers and other members of staff do not take responsibility for the safekeeping of jewellery which has been removed.
- If a child wishes to wear an item of jewellery as part of religious observance, permission must be sought from the headteacher.

### **Hair/ Make-up**

Hair should be neatly presented and cut into a suitable style (for example hairstyles such as a 'mohican' and shaved patterns into the head are not acceptable). Mid to long hair should be tied back with a simple bobble or scrunchy in school colours (Green, grey, black or white). Any other hair

accessories are not acceptable. Hair colour needs to be a natural colour. Any styles that could serve as a distraction to other children will not be permitted.

The wearing of make-up, including nail varnish of any kind (e.g. gel, polygel, acrylic, etc) or false nails of any kind, is not permitted. Likewise, the wearing of temporary tattoos is not acceptable.

### **Footwear**

The school wants all children to grow into healthy adults. We believe that it is dangerous for children to wear shoes that have platform soles, high heels or open toes, so we do not allow children to wear such shoes at school. Heels should be no higher than 5cm. School footwear needs to be in keeping with the smart appearance of the school uniform and black in colour.

### **5. Expectations for our school community**

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 if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to their protected characteristics.

### **Role of Staff**

Staff will closely monitor pupils to make sure they are in the 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 the Senior Leadership Team. If the uniform expectations are not adhered to this could lead to internal and external suspensions. The SLT will work closely with the family to ensure they are aware of expectations and consequences.

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.

### **The role of Parents**

We ask all parents who send their child to our school to support the school uniform policy. We believe that parents have a duty to send their children to school correctly dressed and ready for their daily schoolwork. One of the responsibilities of parents is to ensure that their child has the correct uniform, and that it is clean, in good repair and named.

If any parent would like the school to modify the uniform policy, they should make representation, in the first instance, to the headteacher. The school welcomes children from all backgrounds and faith communities. If there are serious reasons, for example on religious grounds, why parents want their child to wear clothes that differ from the school uniform, the school will look sympathetically at such requests.

Parents are expected to lodge any complaints or objections relating to the school uniform in a timely and reasonable manner.

## **Non-Compliance**

It is our aim to work with families to overcome difficulties with non-compliance of this policy. At all times, we are willing to consider reasonable requests for flexibility to accommodate particular social and cultural circumstances. In this instance, parents should at first make representations to the Headteacher.

If a pupil is not wearing an item of uniform as identified in this policy or has made unreasonable alterations, the class teacher will get in touch with parents.

If this is a continuing issue more formal correspondence will be adopted moving forward.

If either parent or pupil refuse to support the school uniform policy, the behaviour for learning policy will be followed with reasonable increases in sanctions at each stage for the child.

## **The role of Governors**

The governing body supports the headteacher in implementing the school uniform policy. It considers all representations from parents regarding the uniform policy and liaises with the headteacher to ensure that the policy is implemented fairly and with sensitivity.

It is the governors' responsibility to ensure that the school uniform meets all regulations concerning equal opportunities.

The governors 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

Governors ensure that the school uniform policy helps children to dress sensibly, in clothing that is hard wearing, safe and practical.

## **6. Monitoring and reviewing**

The governing body monitors and reviews the school uniform policy through its committee work by:

- Seeking the views of parents, to ensure that they agree with and support the policy;
- considering, with the headteacher, any requests from parents for individual children to have special dispensation with regard to school uniform;
- requiring the headteacher to report to the governors on the way the school uniform policy is implemented.

## **7. Links to other policies**

This policy is linked to our:

- Behaviour for learning policy
- Beechview Academy Equality policy
- Anti-bullying policy
- Complaints policy

## Appendix 1

<b>Beechview Academy School Uniform List</b>	
Uniform	Dark grey/black skirt, pinafore or trousers (No leggings) White shirt Dark green cardigan, jumper or sweatshirt School tie (Compulsory)
Summer (Hot Weather)	White polo shirts green gingham dress grey or black shorts Ties are not compulsory on really hot days
PE	Plain black or dark green shorts or trousers Plain white, deep green or Beechview t-shirt White or black socks Plimsolls or trainers Plain black or deep green tracksuit in cold weather Beechview jumper or sweatshirt
Shoes	Sensible black school shoes (with a heel less than 5cm)

The uniform can have the school logo on or be plain as long as the colours are adhered to.