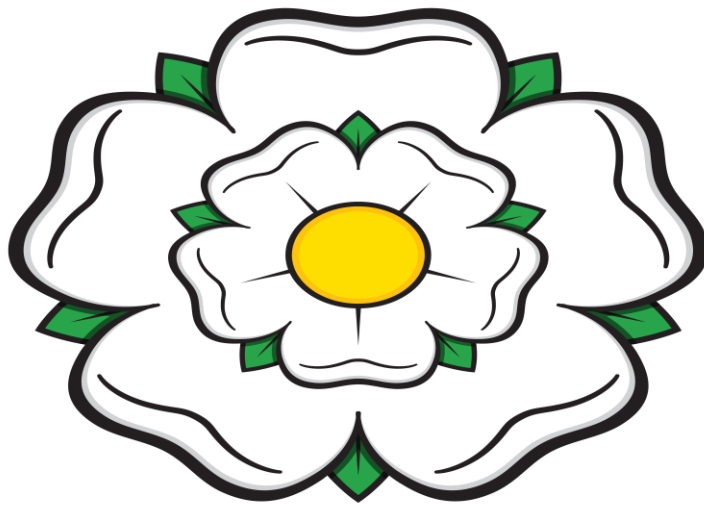


School uniform policy

Wensleydale School



WENSLEYDALE
SCHOOL
LEYBURN

Approved by: FGB **Date:** July 2024

Last reviewed on: July 2026

Next review due by: July 2027

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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 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 a way that is appropriate for school and makes them feel most comfortable
- › Allow Students to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons or if they are experiencing discomfort related to their sex, gender or gender reassignment
- › Allow Students to wear headscarves and/or other religious garments
- › Allow Students 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 Students or their parents/carers to get in touch with the Headteacher 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. the only logo items we require is the Navy school jumper and Polo shirt which can be bought from Uniform Direct.
- › Considering cheaper alternatives to school-branded items
- › Avoiding specific requirements for items Students 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 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

Clothing

- › For years 7-11
- › Plain blue v-necked jumper with school badge, A striped blouse/shirt or school logo polo shirt, black trousers (not jeans, tracksuit bottoms, leggings or jeggings), black skirts no shorter than 10 cm above knee, plain black shoes or trainers – no coloured logos or markings. See our website for pictures.

PE kit

- › Outdoor PE top, indoor PE top, PE shorts, football socks
- › Students should wear a coat if the weather looks to be cold or wet. Hoodies are not allowed to be worn in school- unless they are school approved e.g sports leaders, ski trip or Yr 11 Leavers
- › We recommend marking clothes with your child's name in case they get lost.
- › Uniforms can be purchased with our supplier Uniform Direct. There is a link on our website or you can call them on 01522 510016. Orders are normally dispatched in 24-48 hours.

- › <https://www.uniform-direct.com/acatalog/The-Wensleydale-School-and-Sixth-Form.html>

Makeup and Jewellery

- The only jewellery allowed to be worn is one pair of ear studs (where ears are pierced). Other visible facial or body studs are not permitted.
- In years 10 & 11 a discreet amount of make-up is allowed.
- In years 7, 8 and 9 the discreet use of cover-up make-up is allowed.

5. Expectations for our school community

5.1 Students

Students 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)

Students are also expected to contact the Headteacher 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 the Headteacher 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/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 Students to make sure they are in correct uniform. They will give any Students 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 Headteacher and Pastoral team

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

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 annually by the Headteacher At every review, it will be approved by FGB

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

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