



Shoeburyness High School

Uniform Policy

'Building Strong Partnerships, Building Strong Community,
Building Strong Schools'

Status:	Recommended
Updated:	July 2024
Next Review date:	July 2025
Reviewed and monitored by:	Deputy Headteacher - Pastoral
Lead Member of Staff:	J Banks



Contents

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

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 for all students

1.1 Guiding Principles

- To reinforce a positive school identity.
- To allow the easy identification of Shoeburyness High School students.
- To ensure a consistent approach to school uniform.
- To set standards of appearance.
- To provide value for money so all parents can afford the uniform.

For these reasons, students are expected to be in correct uniform when travelling to and from school.

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 Deputy Head of Pastoral Care, 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
- Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost and/or long-lasting 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 leveler
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for different year/class/house groups
- 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/carers to acquire second-hand uniform items via our uniform shop. Please contact your child(ren)'s Pastoral Year Manager for more information about our second-hand uniform shop.
- Avoiding frequent changes to uniform specifications and minimising the financial impact on parents/carers of any changes
- **Not** allowing expensive sports branded footwear, e.g., Nike, Adidas, etc. to be used as school shoes.
- 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

Uniform Requirements for students in Year 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11

BLAZER	Black with school badge, from the school uniform shop noted later in this document.
WHITE SHIRT	Permitted: Plain white shirt or blouse that is buttoned up and tucked in at the waist. Not permitted: no other shirts, no logos and not an aertex T-shirt.
TROUSERS	Permitted: Black, tailored trousers only . Not permitted: lycra, stretch fabric trousers or any form of joggers/leggings/cargo/gym trousers etc.
SKIRT	Permitted: Skirts that are black roughly knee length. Not permitted: lycra, jersey or stretch fabric skirts of any kind.
JUMPER	Permitted: V-neck, black jumper with the school logo purchased from the school uniform shop noted later in this document. Not permitted: any other jumper or hoody.
SHOES	Permitted: Black, low heel, closed-in style leather look. Not permitted: sports brands, e.g., Nike, Adidas, Puma, Converse, etc.
COATS AND OUTDOOR JACKETS	Must not be worn inside the school buildings. Hoodies are not permitted and are not viewed as a suitable replacement for a blazer, coat or outdoor jacket.
TIGHTS/SOCKS	If a student decides to wear a school skirt, they MUST also wear black tights or black socks.
TIES	School tie - specific to student year group. If the student is a prefect, they will be issued with a prefect tie.

OPTIONAL SUMMER UNIFORM FOR ALL YEAR GROUPS (Half term 6 – June/July)

Students will be permitted to wear black tailored shorts in the summer months during the final half term (June/July). Shorts should **not** have a logo or be PE shorts or any other type of sports shorts.

NOTE: If a student opts to wear tailored black shorts they must be worn with black shoes and black socks. All other uniform remains the same – shorts are just a replacement for trousers.

Further Guidance

Students are expected to wear school uniform in Years 7 – 11. Parents should be guided by the uniform requirements on page 3.

Items that are not allowed are:

- Boots or trainers, including plimsolls / 'Crocs' type footwear
- Patterned tights
- Short skirts
- Lycra/Stretch fabric trousers and skirts
- Leggings
- 'Hoodies', denim jackets / fashion jackets
- Fashion trousers
- Baseball caps, beanie hats, durags and hats of any kind (unless for religious observance)
- Facial piercings including tongue piercings
- Please note that any device for listening to content played via a mobile phone, i.e., headphones, ear buds/'air pods' etc. are not permitted and due to their monetary value, students are actively discouraged from bringing these items to school. Please note the school will not investigate the accidental loss of any of these items.

The **only** jewellery that is permitted is one ring and small stud earrings worn in the LOBE of the ear. **Please note that the school accepts no responsibility for loss or damage – items of high value should not be worn.**

Excessive make up is inappropriate and students **MUST NOT** wear any form of 'false' nails, including acrylics. Nails should be short.

If a student decides to wear any form of necklace, this should be tucked into their shirt/blouse and not worn in front of any outer clothing.

It is essential that all uniform items are clearly labelled with the student's name to enable the school to return any lost items efficiently.

Signposting is available to support parents/carers who have trouble in purchasing uniform; please contact the school for a strictly confidential conversation via office@shoeburyness.secat.co.uk

4.2 Where to purchase it

The official school uniform suppliers are Crawlers of Hamstel Road, Southend and the National Schoolwear Centre of Hamlet Court Road, Westcliff. The blazer must be bought from them.

Uniform Suppliers:

Crawlers, 361 Hamstel Road, Southend on Sea, SS2 4LE, phone 01702 601274

<https://southendschoolwear.com/>

National Schoolwear Centres, 96 Hamlet Court Rd, Westcliff on Sea, SS0 7LP, phone 01702 330300

<https://schoolwearcentres.com/>

PE kit is purchased from an outsourced online provider. The PE Department informs parents of how to purchase the correct PE uniform. Please contact the school office for further support.

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) or if permission to deviate from the policy has been given by staff 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 expected to promote the school by presenting a smart image. All students should also wear correct uniform at break and lunchtime. If a student wishes to discuss an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to their protected characteristics they should contact Jeff Banks, Deputy Headteacher, if they want to discuss this further. jbanks@shoeburyness.secat.co.uk

5.2 Parents and carers

Parents/ 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 Jeff Banks, Deputy Headteacher, if they want to discuss 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.

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 child's Pastoral Year Manager if the situation doesn't improve.

Ongoing breaches of our uniform policy will be dealt with by the student's Pastoral Year Manager

The school uniform requirements are displayed in all tutor bases and in the main student entrance.

We may send students not in the correct uniform home to change into the correct uniform.

In cases where it is suspected that financial hardship has resulted in a student not complying with this uniform policy, staff will take a mindful and considerate approach to resolving the situation.

6. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed by the Deputy Headteacher for Pastoral services biannually.

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

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