



School Uniform Statement 2024 - 2026

Policy Name:	School Uniform Statement
Version:	1
Date published:	September 2024
Date to be reviewed by:	September 2026
Role of Reviewer:	Headteacher
Statutory (Y/N):	N
Published on website: *	3B
Policy Level: **	3
Relevant to:	Parents and Carers
Produced in consultation with:	n/a
Approved by:	Headteacher
Approval date:	September 2024

*Publication on website			
Alliance Schools Trust website		School website	
1	Statutory publication	A	Statutory publication
2	Good practice	B	Good practice
3	Not required	C	Not required

**Policy level			
1	Trust wide	Single policy relevant to everyone and consistently applied across all schools and departments, with no variation. e.g. Complaints procedure	Statutory policies approved by the Alliance Schools Trust Board of Trustees (or designated Trustee Committee). Non-statutory policies approved by the CEO with exception of Executive Pay.
2	Trust core values	This policy defines the Trust core values in the form of a Trust statement to be incorporated fully into all other policies on this subject, that in addition contain relevant information, procedures and or processes contextualised to that school. e.g. Safeguarding, Behaviour	Statements in statutory policies approved by the Alliance Schools Trust Board of Trustees (or designated Trustee Committee). Statements in non-statutory policies approved by the CEO. Policy approved by Local School Board.
3	School/department	These policies/procedures are defined independently by schools as appropriate e.g. Anti-bullying	Approved by Local School Board.

This statement 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

We believe that school uniform plays an important role in promoting the ethos of our school, providing a sense of belonging and identity and setting an appropriate tone for education.

By creating a common identity amongst all pupils, regardless of background, our school uniform acts as a social leveller. It can reduce bullying and peer pressure to wear the latest fashions or other expensive clothes.

School uniform and 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.

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 and provides the best value for money for parents/carers by:

- keeping the number of compulsory branded items to a minimum
- limiting any items with distinctive characteristics where possible
- avoiding specific requirements for items pupils could wear on non-school days, such as coats, bags and shoes
- avoiding different uniform requirements for different year groups
- avoiding unnecessary 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 the school community on any proposed significant changes to the uniform statement and carefully considering any complaints about the statement

Overview of school uniform items

Overview of school uniform items - NURSERY

Nursery uniform	
Sweatshirt	Watling Primary School logo navy blue crew neck sweatshirt or V-neck cardigan
Tops	Watling Primary School logo navy blue crew neck T-shirt or plain navy blue crew neck T-shirt (no branding or logos)
Bottoms	Plain navy blue joggers (no branding or logos) Navy blue leggings (no branding or logos) Plain navy blue shorts (no branding or logos)
Tights & socks	Grey or white tights or socks
Footwear	Plain black shoes or trainers (sensible style with no branding or logos)
Forest School bag	Watling Primary School logo navy blue drawstring bag or plain navy blue drawstring bag (no branding or logos)
Spare clothing bag	Watling Primary School logo navy blue rucksack or plain navy blue rucksack (no branding or logos)
Jewellery	Small stud earrings any other jewellery is not permitted (unless for cultural reasons)
Forest School	
Forest School kit should be sent to school in a bag. Navy blue drawstring bags with the school logo are available to purchase from our online supplier for this purpose.	

Forest School kit will be kept in school and will normally only be sent home at the end of each half term for laundering.

Forest School kit should include a waterproof all in one suit and wellies.

Forest School guidance recommends that children wear long sleeved tops, even in warmer weather.

Please provide a plastic carrier bag for Forest School footwear as this will get muddy.

Hair accessories

Hair accessories should be in school colours (navy blue, sky blue or white) and of a moderate size.

Character hair accessories are not part of the school uniform e.g. animal ears

A suitable coat or jacket must be brought to school, irrespective of the season. Children will be outside regularly unless the weather is extreme or the conditions are unsafe.

In the summer months, suntan lotion should be applied to children before they come to school in the morning. We recommend that hats are worn as additional protection against the sun when it is particularly hot.

Overview of school uniform items – RECEPTION TO YEAR 6

Uniform for Reception to Year 6	
Sweatshirt or cardigan	Watling Primary School logo navy blue crew neck sweatshirt or V-neck cardigan
Tops	White Watling Primary School logo polo shirt or plain white T-shirt, polo shirt, blouse or shirt (short or long sleeved)
Bottoms	Grey trousers, shorts, skirt or pinafore
Dresses	Sky blue and white gingham dress
Tights & socks	Grey or white tights or socks
Footwear	Plain black shoes (sensible style with no branding or logos)
Book bag	Watling Primary School logo navy blue book bag or plain navy book bag (no branding or logos)
Forest School bag	Watling Primary School logo navy blue drawstring bag or plain navy blue drawstring bag (no branding or logos)
Pencil case	Pencil cases are provided by the school for certain year groups no other pencil cases are required or permitted
Jewellery	Small stud earrings any other jewellery is not permitted (unless for cultural reasons)

PE Kit – please send your child to school in their PE kit on their PE day	
Top	Watling Primary School logo navy blue crew neck T-shirt or plain navy blue crew neck T-shirt (no branding or logos)
Bottoms	Plain navy blue PE shorts (no branding or logos) Plain navy blue joggers (no branding or logos)
Outerwear	Watling Primary School logo navy blue hoody or plain navy blue hoody (no branding or logos)
Footwear	Plain black plimsolls or sports trainers
Forest School	
<p>Forest School kit should be sent to school in a bag. Navy blue drawstring bags with the school logo are available to purchase from our online supplier for this purpose. Forest School kit will be kept in school and will normally only be sent home at the end of each half term for laundering.</p> <p>Forest School kit should include comfortable clothing, a waterproof coat or all in one suit and wellies.</p> <p>Forest School guidance recommends that children wear long sleeved tops, even in warmer weather.</p> <p>Please provide a plastic carrier bag for Forest School footwear as this will get muddy.</p>	

Hair accessories
<p>Hair accessories should be in school colours (navy blue, sky blue or white) and of a moderate size.</p> <p>Character hair accessories are not part of the school uniform e.g. animal ears</p>
Swimming kit
<p>Modest swimming costumes and swimming trunks</p> <p>Bikinis are not permitted</p>
School bags
<p><u>Children may bring a small rucksack to school to carry their reading book and lunch box. We do not have sufficient space to store larger bags in school so please do not purchase these.</u></p>

A suitable coat or jacket must be brought to school, irrespective of the season. Children will be outside regularly unless the weather is extreme or the conditions are unsafe.

In the summer months, suntan lotion should be applied to children before they come to school in the morning. We recommend that hats are worn as additional protection against the sun when it is particularly hot.

PE Kit

Please send your child to school wearing their PE kit on the day of their PE lesson. This reduces the time spent on getting changed and also minimizes the chance of clothing going missing.

Uniform supplier

In making our choice of uniform supplier, we have considered cost, value for money and sustainability.

Items of uniform embroidered with the Watling Primary School logo are available to purchase online from uniformcity:

<https://www.uniformcity.co.uk/school/Watling-Primary-School>

Orders can be delivered to school free of charge or to your home address at an additional cost.

Generic school uniform items (without the school logo) can be purchased from most clothing retailers and supermarkets.

Preloved uniform

We have an online marketplace where families can purchase preloved school uniform at significantly reduced prices. This is a great way for us to generate additional funds at the same time as supporting our school commitment to sustainability.

If you have any school uniform that your child has outgrown, we would be very happy to accept this to add to our listings.

Please go to the Uniformerly website to view the items we have for sale. You will need to select Milton Keynes as the Local Authority and then scroll down the list to find Watling Primary School.

<https://uniformerly.co.uk/listing-categories/>

If you are interested in an item, please send a message via the Uniformerly website and we will then contact you to arrange payment and collection.

All proceeds raised from the sale of donated uniform will be put towards the purchase of resources for our children.

Expectations for our school community

Pupils

Pupils are expected to wear the correct uniform when they are on the school premises, travelling to and from school and attending off-site events or trips that have been organised by the school.

The only exceptions to this are specified non-school uniform days and off-site events or trips that require more casual attire. In these cases, this will be communicated to parents and carers well in advance.

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 and carers should contact the Headteacher if they are suffering financial hardship and need support in providing school uniform.

Parents and carers should contact the Headteacher if they want to request an amendment to the uniform statement in relation to their child's protected characteristics.

Staff

Staff will closely monitor pupils to make sure they are in correct uniform. They will give any pupils and families who are not following the uniform guidelines the opportunity to comply but may follow this up with the Headteacher if the situation doesn't improve.

In cases where it is suspected that financial hardship has resulted in a pupil not complying with this uniform statement, staff will take a mindful and considerate approach to resolving the situation. Any concerns of this nature will be discreetly referred to the Headteacher.

Review

We will review this statement regularly to ensure that it:

- remains appropriate for our school's context
- offers a uniform that is appropriate and practical for our pupils
- is implemented fairly across the school
- takes into account the views of members of the school community
- takes into consideration cost and value for money