



School Uniform Policy Studio West

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Control Sheet

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Trust Board link role	

Document History:			
Version	Date of review	Author	Note of Revisions
1.0	September 2022	Chief Operating Officer	No revisions
2.0	July 2024	Associate Principal	Uniform revised: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • branded blue shirts/ blouse optional • blazer compulsory • branded jumper optional • No change to PE uniform - except clarity re non transparent parts to leggings • Shoes - more explicit

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1. Aims

The 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 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 the way that is appropriate for school yet makes them feel most comfortable
- Allow students to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons
- Allow students to wear headscarves and other religious or cultural symbols
- Allow for adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking student or their parents to get in touch with the Principal's PA, 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
- 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 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
- 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 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

Daywear

- For Years 7 - 11, a non-branded blue shirt. The logo has been removed from this item to make it more affordable.
- A branded blazer.
- A branded jumper is not compulsory but is advised during colder months.
- Non-branded black skirt or trousers are to be worn and can be bought generically from retailers.
- Plain black sensible school shoes must be worn (see appendix for further guidance).
- Plain black tights with the black skirt.
- Stud earrings and a watch can be worn.
- Hair should be a natural colour.
- School bag.

Sportswear

- A branded polo shirt (Compulsory).
- Non-branded plain black track pants/activewear leggings (Leggings must not have any see-through sections).
- Studio West ¼ zip training top with logo (Optional).
- Branded training shorts (Optional).
- Socks.

4.2 Where to purchase it

School uniform can be purchased at Top Class Uniforms who are based at 4 Moulton Place, Blakelaw, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE5 3RL.

All branded items including shirts, jumpers, blazers and PE uniform are available from TCU. All other items can be purchased from high street stores.

The Community Clothing Scheme can provide uniform free of charge. More details can be found at <https://www.communityschoolclothingscheme.org>

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 Principal 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 PA to the Principal 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 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 Principal if the situation doesn't improve.

Ongoing breaches of our uniform policy will be dealt with in line with the Expectations for Learning policy.

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.

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 on an annual basis by SLT. At every review, it will be approved by the Governing Body.

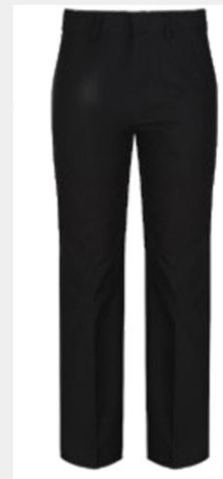
7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

- Expectations for Learning policy
- Equality information and objectives statement
- Anti-bullying policy
- Complaints policy

Studio West

Daywear



Uniform	Y7	Y8	Y9	Y10	Y11
Studio West Blazer With Logo (<i>all years</i>)	E	E	E	E	E
Boys Shirt - Twin Pack (<i>all years</i>)	E	E	E	E	E
Girls Blouse - Twin Pack (<i>all years</i>)	E	E	E	E	E
Plain Black Trousers or Plain Black Skirt (<i>all years</i>)	E	E	E	E	E
Studio West Plain Black Jumper With Logo (<i>all years</i>)	Opt.	Opt.	Opt.	Opt.	Opt.

Essential

Optional

Sportswear	Y7	Y8	Y9	Y10	Y11
Studio West 1/4 Zip Training Top With Logo <i>(all years)</i>	Opt.	Opt.	Opt.	Opt.	Opt.
Studio West PE Polo With Logo <i>(all years)</i>	E	E	E	E	E
Studio West Plain Black Leggings <i>(all years)</i>	Opt.	Opt.	Opt.	Opt.	Opt.
Studio West Track Pants <i>(all years)</i>	Opt.	Opt.	Opt.	Opt.	Opt.
Studio West Training Shorts <i>(all years)</i>	Opt.	Opt.	Opt.	Opt.	Opt.

Shoes must be **plain, formal style, polishable** and **completely black**. **No adornments or logos are permitted. No boots of any kind are permitted.**

Please be aware of shops advertising shoes as 'school shoes'; not all of these are suitable. If you are in any doubt, please contact the school before purchasing in order to eliminate the cost of having to replace items that do not conform with the Uniform Policy.

		
Not Acceptable: Trainer style with trainer laces and not polishable.	Not Acceptable: Trainer style.	Not acceptable: Trainer style, large logo and not polishable.
		
Not Acceptable: Trainer style.	Not Acceptable: Trainer style.	Not Acceptable: Impractical: too flimsy and offer little protection.
		
Acceptable	Acceptable	Acceptable
		
Acceptable	Acceptable	Acceptable