

Uniform Policy



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Contents

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

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 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
- Allow for adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking pupils or their parents to get in touch with the headteacher, 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 plain jumpers and cardigans, 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 leveler
- 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 pupils 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

Most schools in the area encourage pupils to wear school uniform. This helps pupils to feel that they belong to the school and it helps with decision making on weekday mornings. The school can provide badged uniform to buy. If any parents struggle to fund this, we have a range of good quality used uniform available for a modest price.

Langley School uniform is:

- Grey or black trousers
- Grey skirt
- Langley School sweatshirt or blue Sweatshirt
- Pale blue or white polo shirt
- Blue and white candy stripe or gingham dress
- PE Kit
- Black shorts
- Tee-shirt/Langley tee-shirt
- Black pumps
- Swimming costume and towel
- Pump bag

We expect that a child will have a change of clothes for PE, which should be brought in at the start of each term in a clearly labelled pump bag. (Normally they will be sent home at the end of each half term for washing).

Please note: All items of clothing should be clearly marked with the pupil's name.

Jewellery should not be worn in school for safety reasons. If your child's ears are pierced they may wear stud earrings, but these must be taped or removed for PE/swimming. However, children may wear items of jewellery if required by their religion.

4.2 Where to purchase it

- Parents / carers can order direct from the School Trends website and orders will be delivered to their home address. Langley School advise you to check your child's size before ordering. <https://www.schooltrends.co.uk/uniform/LangleySchoolB756TJ>
- Children can also wear plain royal blue sweatshirts/cardigans, which can be purchased directly from your local supermarket or other retailers.
- Please contact the school office concerning second-hand uniform.

5. Expectations for our school community

5.1 Pupils

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)

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 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 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 pupils to make sure they are in 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.

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 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 once every three years by the Deputy Headteacher. At every review, it will be approved by the full governing board.

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

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

Reviewed by Stephanie Parkes, Acting Deputy Headteacher, October 2022