



POLICY

Wirral Grammar School for Boys

Policy	Uniform Policy
Responsible Manager	Headteacher
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Approved by	Governing Body

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1. Aims

This policy aims to:

- Set out our approach to requiring a uniform that is affordable, offers the best value for money for parents and carers, is never a barrier to students applying to join the school and is compliant with statutory guidance on the Cost of School Uniforms:

From September 2026:

- *schools should limit the number of compulsory branded items of uniform and PE kit to 3 or fewer*
- *secondary and middle schools should limit the number of compulsory branded items of uniform and PE kit to 4 or fewer, if one is a tie*
- Explain how we will avoid discrimination in line with our legal duties under the Equality Act 2010
- Clarify our expectations for school uniform and how it helps with a sense of identity and community among students at WGSB.

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.



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To avoid discrimination, our school will:

- Avoid listing sixth form uniform guidance 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 is affordable and never a barrier to applying to join the school – all hardship cases will be reviewed in full to support disadvantaged learners
- 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
- Allow students to wear 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 Head of Year, Head of Inclusion or Deputy Headteacher, Pastoral, 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 the updated 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) cannot be purchased from a wide range of retailers and we are committed to keeping these to an absolute minimum in line with statutory DfE guidance. 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 for example, by only asking that the blazer, worn over the jumper, features the school logo
- Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost and/or long-lasting items, such as Blazers, ties and PE kit
- Reducing the number of items with distinctive characteristics by creating multi-use items (such as PE tops that can be worn as indoor as well as outdoor kit)
- 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 extra-curricular activities by providing equipment or kit to borrow
- Making sure that arrangements are in place for parents/carers to acquire second-hand uniform
- 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
- Reviewing the Uniform Policy annually

Our uniform is limited to 4 compulsory branded items of uniform and PE kit which includes a house tie.



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4. Expectations for school uniform

4.1 School uniform ([B] = Branded, [G] = Generic)

- A black WGSB blazer with blue trimmings on pockets and a school badge [B]
- Charcoal grey trousers [G]
- Plain white shirt [G]
- House ties as follows: Barber (White), Dodds (Red), Hodgson (Green), Lever (Yellow) [B]
- Dark grey or black socks [G]
- Black shoes (not boots, trainers or any such variation) [G]
- Plain black V-neck pullover (no logo) [G]
- Coats may be worn during break and lunchtime whilst outside, but not inside the building [G]

4.2 School PE kit

- Reversible House shirt [B]
- Navy blue shorts [B]
- Navy blue with royal blue hoops socks [G]
- Football/rugby boots [G]
- Training shoes [G]
- We strongly recommend the use of mouth guards for both rugby and hockey [G]

4.3 General appearance

- Excessively long hair that is not tied back or excessively short hair, dyed hair, or eccentric styling are not permitted
- In Years 7-11 jewellery is not permitted

4.4 Where to purchase it

a. School uniform

Wirral Uniform Centre and Cain of Heswall are authorised suppliers of our official school uniform together with other authorised items of equipment.

You can order online from either retailer or visit their shops:

- Wirral Uniform Centre, 2a Princes Pavement, Birkenhead, CH41 2XY, 0151 647 9588
<https://www.wirraluniforms.com/>
- Cain of Heswall, 187 Telegraph Rd, Heswall, CH60 7SE, 0151 342 1769
<https://www.cainofheswall.co.uk/>

b. School PE kit

- All sports wear is purchased online with VX3
<https://vx-3.com/collections/wgsb-students?page=1>

Please note: Students in receipt of free school meals will receive an initial uniform 'bundle' consisting of the [B] branded items - blazer, tie, sports shirt, shorts also including socks.

We retain items of pre-loved uniform that we make available to students on request. Families can also send in laundered, pre-loved items to school. This includes PE kit and boot which are available on Saturday mornings when there are rugby fixtures at the school.



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4.5 Sixth Form uniform guidance

Option 1: Professional suit

- Jacket
- Tailored trousers or skirt
- Shirt/blouse/professional top
- An optional tie

* You may need to wear a jacket and tie for some formal school events

* Suits may be any colour that looks professional

Option 2: Professional office wear

- Tailored trousers or skirt
- Shirt/blouse/professional top
- Professional jumper with no large logos
- Tailored jacket
- Optional tie

Smart, professional shoes with a moderate heel (no open toes or trainers)

General:

- Hair to be kept tidy and can reflect your culture, race or religion, with no extreme colours
- Facial hair kept tidy
- Make up subtle and natural, rather than heavy and theatrical
- Nails a practical length
- Natural looking eyebrows and eyelashes
- Jewellery (ear and nose) minimal and discreet – avoid facial piercings or expanders
- If you are over 18 and have a tattoo, please keep it covered

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 their Head of Year, Head of Inclusion Faculty or Deputy Headteacher, Pastoral if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to their protected characteristics.



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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

Parents/carers are also expected to contact Head of Year, Head of Inclusion Faculty or Deputy Headteacher, Pastoral 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 the opportunity to observe the uniform policy, but will follow up with the Head of Year, Head of Inclusion Faculty or Deputy Headteacher, Pastoral if the situation doesn't improve. Ongoing breaches of our uniform policy will be dealt with by applying the school's Behaviour, Attendance & Anti-Bullying policy.

In cases where it is suspected that financial hardship has resulted in a pupil not observing the uniform policy, staff and the school will take a mindful and considerate approach and the school will assist the family in 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
- Meets statutory DfE guidance
- Is implemented fairly across the school
- Considers 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 where it is avoidable and is value for money for families, and by re-tendering contracts at least every 5 years.

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6. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed annually. At every review, it will be approved by the Full Governing Board.

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

- Behaviour & Anti-Bullying Policy
- School Values statement
- Complaints, Compliments and Comments Policy