

# Uniform Policy

Fairmead School



**Wellbeing Statement:** At Fairmead School we take a holistic approach to the wellbeing of our young people and staff. All policies are written with this in mind and consider the physical and mental wellbeing of our young people, staff and our school community.

Signed by: Mrs T Felstead

Date: 10<sup>th</sup> March 2026

Next Review: March 2028

## 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/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 age, sex, sexual orientation, 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 young people the opportunity to wear the uniform they feel most comfortable in
- Make sure that our uniform costs the same for all young people
- Allow all young people to have long hair (although we reserve the right to ask for this to be tied back)
- Allow all young people to style their hair in a way that is appropriate for school and makes them feel most comfortable
- Allow young people to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons or if they are experiencing discomfort
- Allow young people to wear headscarves and/or other religious garments
- Allow young people 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 young people or their parents/carers to get in touch with the Headteacher or Head of School, 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 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/carers' ability to 'shop around' for the best price.

We will make sure our uniform:

- Is available at a reasonable cost and provides the best value for money for parents/carers

We will do this by:

- Carefully considering and limiting any items with distinctive characteristics
- Following the statutory limits for compulsory branded items of uniform to a maximum of three or fewer
- Limiting compulsory branded items to low-cost and/or long-lasting items
- Avoiding specific requirements for items young people 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 opportunities to acquire second-hand items in a timely manner are accessible to parents/carers of both current and prospective young people, and publishing this information on our website
- Avoiding frequent changes to uniform specifications and minimising the financial impact on parents/carers of any changes
- Consulting with parents/carers and young people on any proposed significant changes to the uniform policy and carefully considering any complaints about the policy
- Continuing to review this policy, to ensure the cost of our uniform is reasonable and provides the best value for money

#### 4. Expectations for school uniform

The expectation is that young people of Fairmead School will develop and feel a sense of community and belonging through the wearing of the school uniform. However, we do have a relaxed approach to uniform as we understand the differing needs of our young people.

The wearing of denims, leisurewear, hoodies or items of clothes with bold designs/slogans etc are not acceptable. Jewellery items must be kept to a minimum ie a simple stud (no drop ear-rings). Hairstyles should be appropriate for school, i.e. no “mohicans”, no designs cut into hair, no extremely short hair (no-guard or number 1) or bright coloured highlights. All long hair (shoulder length or longer) should be tied back.

#### 4.2 Where to purchase it

Uniform with the embroidered school logo on is available from the Southwest Schoolwear shop in Yeovil (10 Wine Street, Yeovil, BA20 1PW, tel: 01935 478178, website: <https://www.swschoolwear.co.uk/>). Uniform can be ordered online or in store. Pre-loved uniform is available from the school.

#### 4.1 Our school's uniform

Daily School Uniform	
This should consist of:	Optional extras include:
<p><b>School crew neck sweatshirt carrying the school logo - available from Southwest Schoolwear shop or Pre-loved from the school</b></p> <p>The following items can be purchased from any high street store or supermarket:</p> <p><b>Polo shirt</b> – navy or white (navy with embroidered school logo available from Southwest Schoolwear shop or Pre-loved from the school)</p> <p><b>Trousers</b> - black or grey (no denim)</p> <p><b>Skirt of suitable length</b> – black or grey (no denim)</p> <p><b>Shorts</b> – grey or black</p> <p><b>Shoes</b> - black sensible or <u>all</u> black trainers (no logos)</p>	<p><b>School fleece jacket</b> (optional - available from Southwest Schoolwear shop or Pre-loved from the school)</p> <p><b>Blue and white summer dress</b> (can be worn in Summer term)</p>
Young people are also encouraged to bring: a bag (e.g., backpack, satchel, etc.) and a coat of their own choice	

<b>PE and Swimming Kit</b>	
PE kit should consist of:	Swimming kit should consist of:
<p>Young people are required to wear the appropriate PE kit for the weather including the following unbranded neutral colours; white, blue or black.</p> <p><b>Warm weather PE Kit</b></p> <p>Plain T-shirt – no logos            Plain navy jumper or school jumper – no hoodies            Plain black sports shorts            A pair of trainers</p> <p><b>Cold and/or wet PE Kit</b></p> <p>Plain black jogging bottoms/leggings            Coat            Plain navy jumper or school jumper – no hoodies            Plain T-shirt – no logos            Plain black sports shorts            A pair of trainers            Change of socks</p>	<p>Swimming shorts/swimming costume            Large towel</p>

<b>Outdoor Learning Kit for Forest School</b>
<p>Young people to bring to change into on the day they are due to participate in outdoor learning.</p> <p>Outdoor learning kit should consist of:</p> <p>Old, comfortable clothing suitable for the weather conditions            Warm, waterproof coat            Sturdy footwear, e.g., walking boots/shoes            Wellington boots            Seasonal items, such as a woolly hat/scarf/gloves for winter or sun hat for summer, are optional but advised</p>

## 5. Expectations for our school community

### 5.1 Young people

Young people 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)

Young people are also expected to contact the headteacher if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to their protected characteristics.

### 5.2 Parents and carers

Parents/carers are expected to make sure their young person has the correct uniform and PE kit, and that every item is:

- Clean

- Clearly labelled with the young person's name
- In good condition

Parents/carers are also expected to contact the headteacher if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to:

- Their young person'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 in accordance with the school's complaints policy.

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 young people to make sure they are in correct uniform. They will give any young people and families breaching the uniform policy the opportunity to comply, but will follow up with the headteacher if the situation doesn't improve.

Ongoing breaches of our uniform policy will be dealt with by the headteacher or head of school.

In cases where it is suspected that financial hardship has resulted in a young person not complying with this uniform policy, staff will take a mindful and considerate approach to resolving the situation and the young person will not miss classroom teaching because of a sanction. This is in line with the statutory [guidance](#).

### 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/carers and young people
- Offers a uniform that is appropriate, practical and safe for all young people

The board will also make sure that the school's uniform supplier gives the highest priority to value for money.

### 6. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed every two years by the Headteacher. At every review, it will be approved by the full governing board.

### 7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our (available on the school website):

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