

The Willows Primary School

School Uniform Policy



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1. Aims of the policy:

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 office@thewillows.omat.org.uk or by calling the school office 01473 683178, 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) 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 such as the school logo to items such as school jumpers/ cardigans and making the purchase of clothing with the school logo on optional.
- Considering cheaper alternatives to school-branded items, such as supermarket non-school logo versions of the school uniform (as long as in the same colour and style as the school logo version).
- 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.
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for different year/class/house groups.
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities where possible.

- Considering alternative methods for signaling differences in groups for interschool competitions, such as creating posters or labels and use of bibs.
- 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

The pictures below show the school's uniform. For all items parents/ carers are able to purchase the school branded (version with the school logo on) or a non-branded version in the same colour and style.

- Trousers, skirts and dress can be in grey, charcoal or black.
- PE shorts can be in Navy blue or black.
- All items with a tick under them are items that must be worn by the children as part of our school uniform, but they can be the branded version (School Logo Version) or non-branded version.

UNIFORM @ THE WILLOWS



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<p>Grey</p> 	<p>Black / Charcoal</p>  <p style="font-size: small;">Cycle shorts – unless under a dress/skirt</p>
	
	
<p>PE</p>  <p style="font-size: small;">House Colour</p> <p style="font-size: small;">Black or Navy Plain</p>	<p>PE</p> 

For children:

- * Pride in our appearance
- * A sense of belonging
- * Community not competition

For families:

- * Smart
- * Low cost
- * Simple

 **elf-aware**

4.2 Where to purchase it

- The School logo branded versions of our school uniform can be purchased from PMG Schoolwear, either from their local shop (40 Westgate St, Ipswich IP1 3ED) or online at [PMG Schoolwear - Schools - The Willows Primary School - Ipswich](#)
- Non-school logo branded versions can be purchased from any 'high street' store or supermarket.
- New and Second-hand uniform is available for parents who may be struggling financially.

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 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 Deputy Headteacher/ Headteacher if the situation does not improve.

Ongoing breaches of our uniform policy will be dealt with by a member of SLT, making contact with parents and discussing the concerns. If the pupil continues to not comply with the policy on purpose, then consequences will be put in place in line with the school's behaviour policy.

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.

6. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed every two years.

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

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