

TEIGN SCHOOL

UNIFORM POLICY 2025/26

	This Policy was recommended by Committee on:	1 May 2025
	This Policy was adopted by the Governing Body for:	1 September 2025
	Policy review date:	Summer term 2026
	Monitoring review date:	Ongoing
	Reviewing Committee	SLT

Other Policies

This Policy should be read in conjunction with the following [policies](#):

- Equal Opportunities Policy
- Celebration of Success and Behaviour Policy
- Bullying Prevention Policy
- Complaints Policy
- Equalities and Diversity Policy

As a Rights Respecting School, Teign School is fully committed to every child receiving the very best education and to ensuring that all students reach their full potential. The School has high expectations of its students and this supports the delivery of outstanding lessons. We expect all members of the school community to behave well, work hard, achieve high standards, show respect for one another and to ensure that Teign School is a positive and safe place to be.

This Policy provides a framework of the school's high expectations regarding uniform and its importance in establishing and maintaining the identity of the school and engendering a sense of pride in being part of the school community.



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- Teign School Uniform Leaflet 2025-26

1. Aim

This Policy will:

- 1.1 Ensure an acceptable standard of dress;
- 1.2 Ensure that the good reputation and image of the school is maintained
- 1.3 Ensure that social distinctions are minimised and avoid the sometimes costly or extreme competition in appearance that can arise amongst young people in secondary schools.
- 1.4 Ensure that students engender a sense of identity and pride in being part of Teign School.

2. Scope

This Policy is consistent with the Equal Opportunities Policy and applies equally to all students, irrespective of their sex, gender reassignment, race, disability, sexual orientation, pregnancy and maternity or religion or belief or special educational needs, subject to considerations of safety and welfare.

3. Legislation and regulation

- 3.1. This Policy has been prepared to meet the school's responsibilities under the Equality Act 2010 and, where applicable, the *Statutory framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage* (DfE, March 2017).
- 3.2. This Policy has regard to the following guidance and advice:
 - i. [Special educational needs and disability code of practice: 0 to 25 years \(DfE, January 2015\)](#);
 - ii. [Technical guidance for schools in England \(Equality and Human Rights Commission, July 2014\)](#);
 - iii. School admissions code: Statutory guidance for admission authorities, governing bodies, local authorities, schools' adjudicators and admission appeals panels (DfE, December 2014);
 - iv. Exclusion from maintained schools, academies and student referral units in England: Statutory guidance for those with legal responsibilities in relation to exclusion (DfE, September 2017); and
 - v. [School uniform: Guidance for governing bodies, school leaders, school staff and local authorities \(DfE, September 2013\)](#).
 - vi. [Education \(Guidance about Costs of School Uniforms\) Act 2021](#)

4. Uniform Requirements

- 4.1. Correct uniform must be worn at all times during the day and when travelling to and from the school. Uniform must also be worn for educational visits. All items of uniform should be clearly marked with the student's name. Please see Appendix 1 for the school's uniform requirements.
- 4.2. Students are required to wear uniform correctly and responsibly. Uniform is part of the 'Teign Ten' (No.5). The school may sanction the student in accordance with the school's Behaviour Policy if a student is not wearing the correct uniform.
- 4.3. Students who do not have the complete or correct uniform will be addressed by their form tutor. Where possible, they will be offered a loan of uniform or in exceptional circumstances, a uniform slip. A pastoral detention is issued for not meeting the Teign Ten.
- 4.4. If students are not wearing the correct uniform, support is provided quickly to remedy the breach, for example contact with home to see if the uniform can be brought in, lending of items or consent for the student to go home and get the item / s. In all cases, parental communication will take place.
- 4.5. The school will consider reasonable requests to alter the school uniform, for example for transgender students, genuine religious requirements and reasonable adjustments for students with additional needs. Where there is uncertainty as to whether an item may be worn under this section, the issue must be referred by the student or the student's parents to the Headteacher, whose decision will be final.

5. Symbols of faith

- 5.1. Certain items of jewellery, such as the Kara bangle, and certain items of headwear, such as the turban and headscarves may be worn by students when doing so is genuinely based on manifesting religious or racial beliefs or identity. This is subject to considerations of safety and welfare and the school's existing uniform policy principles are set out in Appendix 1.
- 5.2. Where there is uncertainty as to whether an item may be worn under this section, the issue must be referred by the student or the student's parents to the Headteacher, whose decision will be final, subject to the complaints procedure set out in the Education South West Complaints Policy.

6. Students with Additional Needs

- 6.1. Reasonable adjustments may be required to the uniform for students with additional needs who require them. The student or their parents should refer the matter to the school to ensure all reasonable adjustments are made to

accommodate the student. In some cases, parents will be asked to provide medical evidence that an adjustment is necessary. Where adjustments are needed, the school expects students and parents to make every effort to match the school uniform expectations as closely as possible.

7. Valuables

- 7.1. The school cannot take responsibility for damage, loss or theft of any of these items. All uniform and PE kit must be clearly labelled with the student's name.

8. Responsibilities

The following responsibilities apply in relation to this policy:

- Staff are responsible for ensuring students adhere to this policy
- Headteachers have overall responsibility for the correct implementation of this policy

9. Monitoring and Compliance

Compliance with the uniform policy will be monitored within the school by the Deputy Headteacher (Behaviour and Attitudes).

10. Cost

The Department for Education's (DfE) 'Cost of School Uniforms' (November 2021) highlights the importance of the cost of uniform and that policies regarding school uniform do not discourage parents from applying to a school of their choice because of cost. Schools are therefore expected to consider the needs of every group and any existing suppliers of school uniform.

In sourcing school uniform, the school is able to demonstrate how best value has been achieved i.e. keeping compulsory branded items to a minimum and where possible the parents' availability to purchase these from supermarkets.

- 10.1 Branded Items - Teign School strives to keep branded items to a minimum. Most items within our uniform are considered to be generic items which are widely available. We aim to give parents choices in where to purchase which in turn allows control of the cost of school uniform. We will regularly communicate with parents through letters home and newsletters to support awareness of this.
- 10.2 Additional uniform for extra-curricular activities - Teign School aims to avoid requiring parents to purchase additional uniform for the purpose of any extra-curricular activity with the exception of PE Kit. Items are selected for their quality

and durability. Within this however, provision is made again for some generic items to be purchased and a stock of second-hand kit is made available on request. We publish 'essential' and 'optional' kit lists.

- 10.3 Variations in Uniform - Teign School does not implement variations within our uniform (such as house colours or specific of clothing for different year groups). We are aware of the impact this can have on the total costs and the ability of parents to pass items down between siblings. All students are provided with a house badge in Year 7 and any new students who join the school are provided with a house badge.
- 10.4 Providing Second-Hand Uniform - Teign School has a second-hand uniform stock to which we regularly request donations. Whilst every effort is made to secure a range of sizes and items, we cannot guarantee availability. We do not charge for these items, and they can be requested by contacting our Student Support Centre.
- 10.5 Other support with the cost of school uniforms - For students who are in receipt of Free School Meals, financial support towards branded items (such as Blazers) is available. This can be requested by contacting our Student Support Centre who will liaise with our uniform supplier on their behalf. In cases of financial hardship, parents should speak with their child's Wellbeing Officer who may be able to access some uniform funding or signpost to organisations that can offer support.

Teign School keeps the cost of supplying the uniform under review.

11. Equality

The school aims to balance the rights of individual students against the best interests of the school community as a whole. This may include health and safety, security, teaching and learning, protecting young people from external pressures, promoting a strong, cohesive school identity that supports high standards and a sense of identity among students, as well as the need to promote harmony between different groups represented in the school.

Teign School is aware of our obligations under the Equality Act 2010 (Act) and have chosen to adopt a neutral uniform policy that does not specify requirements by gender. We carefully consider any requests from students to vary the Policy, and particularly from those who have any of the listed protected characteristics under the Act, including but not limited to disability, religion and gender reassignment (or transgender).

Requests must be reasonable and should be put in writing to the Headteacher. Requests should be considered on a case by case basis and with reference to the circumstances.

Challenges to the Policy that cannot be resolved should be escalated using the school's Complaints Policy, however we strongly recommend requesting a meeting with the school to ensure an open dialogue on how to move forward.

12. Non-compliance

The DfE's statutory guidance on school uniform (November 2021) sets out the school's right to discipline students for breaching rules on appearance or uniform, provided that it is in accordance with the school's published behaviour policy.