



# Wigston Academy

## SCHOOL UNIFORM POLICY (DRAFT)

<b>DATE APPROVED:</b>	March 2026
<b>APPROVED BY:</b>	Board of Trustees
<b>REVIEW FREQUENCY:</b>	Annually
<b>DATE FOR REVIEW:</b>	March 2027

Signed by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'M. M. M.', is written over a faint, larger signature.

Date: March 2026

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## 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 all 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: 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 Students the opportunity to wear the uniform they feel most comfortable in
- Make sure that our uniform costs the same for all Students
- Allow all Students to have long hair, although we reserve the right to ask that long hair be tied back
- Allow all Students to style their hair in a way that is appropriate for school, and makes them feel most comfortable
- Allow Students to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons, or if they are experiencing discomfort
- Allow Students to wear headscarves and/or other 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 their child's Progress Leader, 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 (DfE) on the cost of school uniforms.

We understand that items with distinctive characteristics (such as branded items, or items that need to have a school logo attached or be in a unique fabric or style) 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 therefore make sure our uniform:

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

We will do this by:

- Following the statutory limits for compulsory branded items of uniform and PE kit to a maximum of:
  - 4 or fewer, if 1 item is a tie
- Limiting compulsory branded items to low-cost and/or long-lasting such as ties and badges
- Considering cheaper alternatives to compulsory branded items, such as logos that can be ironed on, as long as this doesn't compromise quality and durability
- Avoiding specific requirements for items such as coats, bags and shoes/trainers that Students could also wear on non-school days. See more information in section 4.1
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for different year/class/house groups
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities including (but not limited to) sport, music and drama
- Avoiding requiring different branded items for particular times of the year, such as a branded dress in summer and a branded skirt in winter
- Considering alternative methods for signalling differences in groups for interschool competitions, such as creating posters
- Considering alternative approaches, including loaning compulsory branded items such as sports kit for competitions
- Making sure that opportunities to acquire second-hand items in a timely manner are accessible to parents and carers of both current and prospective Students, 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 Students on any proposed significant changes to the uniform policy, and carefully considering any complaints about uniform in line with the school's complaints policy
- Avoiding single-supplier contracts, to make sure generic items can be purchased from a range of retailers
- 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**

### **4.1 Our school's uniform**

The uniform is part of our school ethos. In coming to Wigston Academy, parents, carers and students agree to support our uniform expectations. In line with our code of conduct, it is expected that students will dress smartly and take pride in their appearance and we would ask you to support the school in ensuring that your child is correctly dressed in uniform. There may be special fund-raising non-uniform days, but these will be made clear in advance. Students on day trips and visits will be expected to wear uniform unless they are told otherwise. Our uniform is practical, looks smart and is designed with health and safety in mind. Students have been consulted on uniform expectations.

#### **Blazer**

Black traditional blazer with school badge. A school badge can be bought separately from school reception to sew or stick onto a standard black blazer. Blazers should be worn by all students unless a student in years 7, 8, 9 and 10 has P.E. on that day when they can come in P.E uniform. Year 11 students are expected to be in uniform all of the time and change for P.E.

#### **Trousers**

Trousers are to be tailored plain black and of a traditional style and made of standard school trouser fabric. The following are **not allowed**: jeans, cords, track suits bottoms or chinos, denim trousers, trousers with rivets, trousers with low waist, trousers which are tight on the legs, leggings, skinny fit trousers, trousers that are not full length, trousers that follow a trend including; cords, culottes, ski pants, trousers with large buckles, frills or fashion accessories.

#### **Skirts**

Skirts should be plain black knee length or just above, of a traditional style and made of standard school skirt fabric. The following are **not allowed**: lycra skirts, netted skirts, denim skirts, tight skirts, skirts with patterns, skirts with rivets or frills or skirts which follow a current trend. Tights worn with a skirt need to be black opaque. Students can wear plain black, white or grey ankle length socks.

#### **Shirt/Blouses**

Plain white shirt with collar with no logos, frills or decoration. Polo shirts are not allowed. Shirts need to be fully tucked in at all times with no visible T-shirts underneath and sleeves rolled down.

## **Shorts**

Students can wear black traditional knee length dress shorts, but no higher than the knee. If shorts are worn these need to be worn with black, grey or white ankle socks. Material and design must be dress shorts, not tight fitting and cannot be lycra, denim, cord, chino nor linen.

## **Jumpers (Optional)**

These should be v neck and made of wool, cotton or blend. The following are not allowed: sweatshirts or items made from sweatshirt material, cardigans, items with zips or logos and vest tops.

## **Tie**

Wigston Academy tie. There are two. One for Years 7 and 8, and a different one for years 9, 10 and 11.

## **Footwear (no boots)**

Students are expected to wear PLAIN BLACK FOOTWEAR. Footwear that has different coloured logos, writing on or any colour is not acceptable. Plain black, low healed footwear which covers the foot and are suitable for school. Trainers are accepted, but must be plain black with no logos. Canvas shoes such as Converse can be worn but not for PE. Boots are not acceptable.

## **Coats**

An additional coat will be needed according to the weather. Coats must not be worn in school during lessons or change overs. Hooded tops may be worn as a coat over the top of blazers but not underneath. Coats need to be carried in the building.

## **Jewellery**

Jewellery should be discreet and adhere to health and safety rules such as no hoop earrings. Wrist watches are allowed and are the responsibility of students, smart watches are not allowed due to exam regulations.

## **Hair colour and styles**

Hairstyles should be reasonable and appropriate to being in a learning environment at school. Colouring is only allowed if it is of a single natural hair colour, although natural colour highlights are acceptable. No bright colours. Patterns, Mohicans, logos, coloured braiding, shaved patterns and tramlines are not permitted.

## **Facial Piercings**

One pair of small stud earrings (or just one) is allowed. One stud in the nose is allowed. Any other piercings including tongue piercings are not acceptable. Piercings must be removed for P.E. or other activities as directed.

## **Makeup**

Makeup should be natural and discreet.

## **False Eyelashes**

No false eyelashes

## **False Nails**

No false nails, or acrylic or gel nails (nails should be of a 'safe' and appropriate length) as these can stop students writing and using equipment.

## **Trends or extremes of fashions**

If students, parents or carers are unsure about what to wear or before having something done in relation to hair etc please check with staff.

**If students, parents or carers are unsure about what to wear, length or style or before having something done in relation to hair etc they must contact the Academy for advice in order to check with staff.**

## **Wigston Academy P.E. Uniform**

Students **are required** to wear the school-branded P.E. top and plain black bottoms. If they prefer not to wear the school-branded bottoms, students may opt for plain black tracksuit bottoms (with a very small logo), sports leggings, or shorts.

Students in Years 7-10 must wear the full Wigston Academy P.E. uniform on the days they have P.E. lessons, while Year 11 students should change into their P.E. kit on their P.E. days.

A small logo is allowed on P.E. kit (leggings, tracksuit bottoms, or shorts), but no stripes or large branded names are permitted down the legs. Black shorts must be loose-fitting and knee-length or just above the knee. Tight-fitting black shorts, such as cycling shorts, are not allowed. However, black cycling shorts may be worn underneath loose-fitting sports shorts as long as they are not visible.

For safety reasons, students must wear appropriate trainers, not canvas shoes like Converse, which do not provide sufficient support for P.E. practical lessons.

Students in Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 students **MUST** wear Wigston Academy P.E. uniform on the days they have P.E. lessons. Year 11 students **change into** their P.E. kit on the day they have P.E.

## **4.2 Where to purchase or acquire it**

Ordering Uniform and PE Kit

Uniform and P.E. kit can be ordered in the following ways:

- By filling in an order form available at the school office.
- By ordering online through Uniform Direct's or Schoolwear Solutions websites.
  - [Uniform Direct](#)
  - [Schoolwear Solutions](#)
- By visiting their stores at either **Uniform Direct, 54-56 Humberstone Gate, Leicester, LE1 3PJ** or **Schoolwear Solutions, 64 London Road, Oadby, LE2 5DH**.

All compulsory items are in stock as well as there being a section of shirts, blouses, trousers and skirts.

When students all wear the same clothing every day at school, it levels out the playing field. Any expectations on what to wear are removed and children develop a greater sense of equality.

As a school we take great pride in all students wearing the correct uniform.

**Should you need assistance with school uniform there is a small supply of second-hand clothing available, please contact the Academy reception if you need further information.**

## **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 your child's Progress Leader if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to their protected characteristics.

## 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/carers are also expected to contact your child's Progress Leader 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 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 Students to make sure they are in correct uniform. They will give any Students 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 following the school behaviour policy

In cases where it is suspected that financial hardship has resulted in a Student not complying with this uniform policy, staff will take a mindful and considerate approach to resolving the situation and the Student 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 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 and by re-tendering contracts at least every 5 years.

## **6. Monitoring arrangements**

This policy will be reviewed annually. At every review, it will be approved by the board of Trustees

## **7. Links to other policies**

This policy is linked to our:

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