



# School Uniform Policy

## Kenton School

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## Control Sheet

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## 1. Aims

The 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 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 costs the same for all students
- 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 the way that is appropriate for school yet makes them feel most comfortable
- Allow students to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons
- Allow students to wear headscarves and other religious or cultural symbols
- Allow for adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking student or their parents to get in touch with the Principal's PA, 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 or a unique fabric/colour/design) 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 where possible
- Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost or long-lasting items, such as ties

- Considering cheaper alternatives to school-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 students 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 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 students on any proposed significant changes to the uniform policy and carefully considering any complaints about the policy

## 4. Expectations for school uniform

### 4.1 Kenton School Uniform

- Branded items required (Top Class Uniforms)
  - Black blazer with school badge
  - Clip on tie (colour represents Year group)
  - PE top (boys navy, girls sapphire blue)
- Branded item – optional – Jumper to be worn under blazer
- PE - Dark shorts / jogging bottoms/ leggings, trainers
- White collared shirt, to remain tucked in.
- Trousers should be plain black with absolutely no logos or highly noticeable zips etc. They must be appropriate school trousers with a loose leg tailored fit and not jeggings, leggings, jeans or pencil tight trousers.
- All students wearing trousers must wear plain black socks with no logo.
- Skirts must be all black and be of an acceptable length to sit on the knee and should not be tight fitting or of Lycra material. Tube style / fitted skirts are not to be worn. Girls wearing a skirt must wear black tights.
- Students must wear plain all black shoes (not trainers or sports shoes). No stripes, coloured bows, clips or badges. Boots are not to be worn at all.
- Hair should be of a natural colour and should be cut in a sensible style.

- Apart from a stud in each ear and a wristwatch, the wearing of jewellery is not allowed and it will be removed and confiscated. We cannot accept any liability for any loss or damage of confiscated items. Facial piercings are not allowed for health and safety reasons. False nails of any type are not allowed.
- Students who are not dressed appropriately should expect to be isolated. We would rather work together with parents and students to avoid this.
- Basic Equipment - Please ensure that your child has a school bag and that they have a pencil case containing pens, pencils, a ruler and a scientific calculator, so that they are ready to learn. Your child will be provided with a student planner during their first form time lesson in September.

## **4.2 Purchase of Uniform**

Blazer, tie, PE top and School jumper is available to purchase from Top Class Uniforms

TCU [Group](#)

Blakelaw Shopping Centre

4 Moulton Place

Newcastle upon Tyne

NE5 3RL

or

45 Arlington Avenue

Montague Estate

Newcastle upon Tyne

NE3 4TS

Other items of clothing are available from high-street retailers.

## 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)

### 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 also expected to contact Senior Leadership Team, [kenton.enquiries@northernleaderstrust.org](mailto:kenton.enquiries@northernleaderstrust.org) 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 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 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 Principal if the situation doesn't improve.

Ongoing breaches of our uniform policy will be dealt with by The Principal.

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.

### 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 and pupils
- Offers a uniform that is appropriate, practical and safe for all pupils

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 by the Principal. At every review, it will be approved by Local Governing Body.

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

This policy is linked to our:

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