

School uniform policy

Greenleas School



Approved by:	Full Governing Board	Date: 22.5.26
Last reviewed on:	May 2026	
Next review due by:	May 2028	

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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 pupils the opportunity to wear the uniform they feel most comfortable in
- Make sure that our uniform costs the same for all pupils
- Allow all pupils to have long hair, although we reserve the right to ask that long hair be tied back
- Allow all pupils to style their hair in a way that is appropriate for school, and makes them feel most comfortable
- Allow pupils to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons, or if they are experiencing discomfort
- Allow pupils to wear headscarves and/or other religious garments
- Allow pupils 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 pupils or their parents/carers to get in touch with Mrs. Clarke, Head Teacher office@greenleas.net 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:
 - 3 or fewer
- Carefully considering whether any items with distinctive characteristics are necessary, and limiting these items where possible, for example, by only asking that the cardigan or jumper, worn over the polo shirt, features the school logo
- Limiting compulsory branded items to low-cost and/or long-lasting items.
- 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 pupils 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 bibs or arm bands
- 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 pupils, 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 pupils 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

Our school colours are bottle green and grey.

- Bottle green sweatshirt, cardigan or jumper. Must be bottle green. Logo is optional.
- White and / or bottle green polo shirt with collar

- Grey long trousers, not leggings.
- Grey skirt or pinafore
- Grey, black or white socks OR grey or green tights (not leggings) Sports “skins” are not appropriate
- Black shoes NOT trainers, no high heels, no flip flops. Sandals should fasten securely over heel and toe and must be worn with socks.
- Headscarves should be black, grey or bottle green

Optional items for Summer Term/Autumn 1

- Green and white checked or striped summer dress or playsuit
- Grey shorts

Optional items for Autumn 2/Spring Term

- Black boots

PE Kit

PE Kit is to be kept at home and worn to school on PE days, with a plain black tracksuit over the top and school shoes. *Trainers to be kept in school. ?*

- PE t-shirt in bottle green, either with Greenleas logo or plain green, cotton or sports fabric
- PE shorts bottle green shadow stripe
- Trainers
- Black cotton jersey tracksuit for outside
- One-piece swimsuit or standard swim shorts or trunks for Swimming in Key Stage 2, any colour.
- Long hair must be tied back securely every day using bottle green or neutral accessories. School staff will provide a band if forgotten for children to tie back their own hair. The wearing of “deely-bopper” style hairbands is permitted for Pudsey Day only.
- Jewellery along with other high value items including smart watches and fitness trackers should not be worn to school and may be / will be removed by staff for safekeeping to avoid loss or damage. Religious jewellery is permitted but must be removed on PE days.
- Earrings must be removed on PE days.
- Children may choose to wear cycling-style “modesty” shorts underneath a skirt or dress. These should be black, bottle green or grey.
- Children should not bring lip gloss or lip balm to school. Sun block must be applied at home.
- All children should have a coat suitable for outdoor play which they can put on and fasten unaided.
- Children may bring a book bag to school in bottle green. This should be clearly named, with no keyrings or external adornments.
- During their 6 week Forest School enrichment rotation, children will need suitable muddy play clothing including wellies and waterproofs. This should come into school on Fridays and go home with the children for washing.
- School football tops or gymnastics leotards will be provided on loan if a child is selected to represent the school.

4.2 Where to purchase or acquire it

- There is no requirement to wear branded uniform, plain items are acceptable but the green must be bottle green.

- Branded and unbranded uniform can be purchased at Wear to School in North Street Leighton Buzzard or online at <https://www.schooltrends.co.uk/uniform/GreenleasLowerSchoolLU7> 2XT or <https://myclothing.com>
- Unbranded uniform is widely available at most supermarkets and high street suppliers as well as online retailers. Gently loved and second hand uniform can be purchased from the PTA on an honesty basis in the school lobby.

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)

Pupils are also expected to contact [Rebecca Clarke Head Teacher office@greenleas.net] if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to their protected characteristics.

If a child is not wearing the correct uniform, their parents will be contacted on the first day. For all subsequent days, correct uniform will be loaned to the child to change into.

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 [Rebecca Clarke Head Teacher office@greenleas.net] 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 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 headteacher if the situation doesn't improve.

Ongoing breaches of our uniform policy will be dealt with by the Phase Leader, escalating to the Senior Leadership Team.

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 and the pupil 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 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 bi-annually by the Senior Leadership Team. At every review, it will be approved by the full governing board.

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

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

8. Our uniform in photos

Please note white polo shirts may also be worn.

