School Uniform Policy

2024 - 2026

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Other related policies	Complaints Policy

Version History Log for this document

Version	Date Published	Details of key changes from previous version
2	Dec 2024	Changes made to the list of the uniform items
1	Sep 2022	New policy - Supersedes all previous versions

Introduction

It is our policy that all children should be encouraged to wear school uniform when attending school, or when participating in a school organised event outside normal school hours. We provide a list of the items suggested for school uniform in our induction guides, on our school website and they are listed below for ease of reference.

The DfE (Department for Education) strongly encourages schools to have a uniform as it can play a key role in:

- Promoting the ethos of a school;
- Providing a sense of belonging and identity;
- Setting an appropriate tone for education.

At West Thurrock Academy, we believe that by creating a common identity amongst all children, regardless of background, a school uniform can act as a social leveller. It can reduce bullying and peer pressure to wear the latest fashions or other expensive clothes. The school's leaders are mindful of the financial pressures that can be associated with uniforms. This is why we are committed to ensure that our uniform policy is affordable for all.

Aims and objectives

Our policy is based on the notion that a school uniform:

- Promotes a sense of pride in the school;
- Promotes a feeling of community and belonging;
- Builds a sense of identity;
- Is practical and smart;
- Identifies the children with the school;
- Makes children feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance;
- Is regarded as suitable, and good value for money, by most parents;
- Supports positive behaviour;
- Has been designed with health and safety in mind.

Items of uniform

School colours

The school colours are Red, Black and White.

General school uniform

- Short sleeve white polo shirt
- Short sleeve white shirt
- Red sweatshirt/cardigan/Fleece **(Recommended during winter months)**
- Red gingham summer dress
- Red gingham school t-shirt dress
- Red gingham sporty school playsuit
- Black pinafore dress or skirt
- Black smart trousers **(Recommended during winter months)**
- Black smart shorts
- Black tights
- School tie **(As of September 2025, the school will no longer require children to wear ties)**
- Flat black shoes
- All black trainers **(no logos or motifs)**
- Black ankle boots **(no 'Ugg style boots')**

PE Kit

- Black shorts
- House colour PE top (Yellow, Green, Blue or Red)
- Black jogging bottoms **(Winter months)**
- House colour sweatshirt (Yellow, Green, Blue or Red) **(Winter months)**
- Trainers

Extras

- Water bottle
- School bag - Can be a backpack or a book wallet
- Unbranded cap - red or black

Embroidered uniform

The school has a formal relationship with **Uniforms by Niki** who can provide families with t-shirts, jumpers, cardigans and other items with the school's logo embroidered on them. There is no obligation to have a top which displays the school logo but we do insist in the uniform conforming with the school colours.

Where can the school's uniform be purchased?

Our school uniform can be purchased from the following supplier:

Uniforms by Niki

Online - https://uniformsbyniki.com/collections/west-thurrock-academy

Address -

Walton Hall Farm

Walton Hall Road

Linford

Stanford-le-Hope

SS17 0RH

Telephone - 01375 672 209

Email - info@uniformsbyniki.com

All items listed can also be purchased from most supermarkets.

Examples of uniform items from a supermarket retailer- Asda:

Item of uniform	Website link for item of uniform
	https://direct.asda.com/george/school/boys-school-polo-shirts/white-school-polo-shirt-5-pack/GEM896197,default,pd.html
	https://direct.asda.com/george/school/shirts-blouses/girls-white-short-sleeve-school-shirt-5-pack/GEM526706,default,pd.html?cgid=D10M2G1C1
	https://direct.asda.com/george/school/jumpers-sweatshirts/red-school-sweatshirt-5-pack/GEM936322,default,pd.html?cgid=D10M1G1C14
	https://direct.asda.com/george/school/cardigans-jumpers/girls-jersey-school-cardigan-2-pack/GEM704099,default,pd.html?cgid=D10M2G1C5&clr=Red
	https://direct.asda.com/george/school/gingham-dresses/girls-red-gingham-tiered-school-dress/GEM901607,default,pd.html?cgid=D10M2G1C18
	https://direct.asda.com/george/school/gingham-dresses/girls-red-gingham-sporty-school-dress-2-pack/GEM901270,default,pd.html?cgid=D10M2G1C18
	https://direct.asda.com/george/school/gingham-dresses/girls-red-gingham-polo-shirt-school-dress/GEM901627,default,pd.html?cgid=D10M2G1C18
	https://direct.asda.com/george/school/shorts/boys-black-adjustable-waist-school-shorts-2-pack/GEM733815,default,pd.html?cgid=D10M1G1C17
	https://direct.asda.com/george/school/trousers/boys-black-plus-fit-half-elastic-school-trouser-2-pack/GEM935182,default,pd.html?cgid=D10M1G1C16

	https://direct.asda.com/george/school/girls-school-skirts/senior-girls-black-waist-panel-permanent-pleats-school-skirt/GEM936886,default,pd.html?cgid=D10M2G1C10
	https://direct.asda.com/george/school/pinafores-dresses/girls-black-drop-waist-pleat-school-pinafore-dress-2-pack/GEM836696,default,pd.html?cgid=D10M2G1C19
	https://direct.asda.com/george/school/pinafores-dresses/girls-black-2-in-1-pleated-school-pinafore-dress/GEM760572,default,pd.html?cgid=D10M2G1C19

Second hand uniform

Second hand uniform can also be accessed through the school. If you would like to access second hand uniform, please contact Mrs Pitcher using the details below:

Telephone - 01708 866743

Email - admin@westthurrockacademy.co.uk

What to do if you require support to purchase uniform?

If parents are finding the cost of uniform challenging, they should reach out to Mrs Pitcher who will work with them to find an appropriate solution. This will be done in a supportive and confidential manner.

Jewellery

In accordance with the Local Authority requirements on health and safety, we do not allow children to wear jewellery in our school.

The exceptions to this rule are small, simple studs in pierced ears, small objects of religious significance or wristwatches. “Smart” watches are strictly prohibited.

On days when children have Physical Education lessons and/or sporting activities, they should not wear jewellery to school. If children do attend school with jewellery, they will be asked to remove objects before Physical Education lessons or any other lessons where the wearing of such items constitutes a potential safety risk. Teachers and other members of staff do not take responsibility for the safe keeping of jewellery which has been removed.

Hair

The school does not permit children to have haircuts / hair colourings that could serve as a distraction to other children.

Mid to long length hair should be tied back at all times. Hair accessories should be minimal and in keeping with the school colours.

The role of parents

We ask all parents who send their children to our school to support the ‘School Uniform Policy’. We believe that parents have a duty to send their children to school correctly dressed and to support the policies of the school. Parents should ensure that their child has the correct uniform / colours and that it is clean, in good condition and clearly labelled.

The role of the school

The school will regularly review the cost implications and practicality of the school's proposed 'School Uniform Policy' to ensure that it is affordable - this includes who we recommend as potential suppliers and complies with Health and Safety advice. The school will make staff available to support families implement the Uniform Policy. The school will actively engage with children and parents about the school's future decisions on uniform.

The role of the governing body

The Governing body supports the Head Teacher in implementing the school uniform policy. It considers all representations from parents regarding this policy and liaises with the Head Teacher to ensure that the policy is implemented fairly and with sensitivity. It is the Governing body's responsibility to ensure that the school uniform meets all national regulations concerning equal opportunities and that the school uniform policy is consistent with the school's policy on equal opportunities. Governing body members ensure that the school uniform policy helps children to dress sensibly in clothing that is hardwearing, safe and practical.