

Great Oaks School Policies



School Uniform statement			
Version	1	Approved by	Great Oaks Governors
Date last amended	February 2025	Approval date	04.03.25
Lead officer	Assistant Head for Safeguarding	Review date	March 2028
Contact	Grace Kent	Effective date	01.09.23

Great Oaks School Uniform Policy

1. Aims

Our uniform policy is designed to:

- Ensure our uniform is affordable and offers the best value for money for parents and carers.
- Promote inclusivity and prevent discrimination, in line with the Equality Act 2010.
- Set clear expectations for school uniform while ensuring comfort and practicality for all students.

2. Equality and Inclusivity

At Great Oaks School, we believe every student should feel comfortable and included in their uniform. In line with the Equality Act 2010, we ensure that:

- Uniform is not restricted by gender – students can choose what they feel most comfortable wearing.
- Uniform costs are fair and equal for all students.
- All students can have long hair (though we may ask for it to be tied back for safety reasons).
- Students can style their hair in a way that suits them, as long as it is appropriate for school.
- Students can request changes to swimwear for religious or personal reasons.
- Religious garments, such as headscarves, are welcomed.
- Adjustments can be made for students with sensory or physical needs to ensure their comfort.

3. School Uniform Expectations

Due to the unique needs of our students, we have chosen a uniform that is relaxed, comfortable, and accessible to all.

- Students across all pathways are expected to wear the school uniform, as it helps create a sense of belonging.

4. Keeping Uniform Affordable

We are committed to making school uniform as affordable as possible by:

- Keeping branded items to a minimum.

- Offering affordable alternatives, such as iron-on school logos.
- Ensuring uniform is widely available and not limited to specialist suppliers.
- Avoiding unnecessary requirements for items such as coats, bags, and shoes.
- Providing opportunities for parents to purchase second-hand uniforms.
- Limiting changes to uniform to reduce financial impact on families.
- Consulting with parents and students before making any major changes.

5. How to Purchase Uniform

- New students can obtain uniform information at the Year 7 parents' evening as part of their transition process.
- Parents of existing students who wish to purchase school uniform can contact the school office at **02380 767660** and ask to speak with a member of the Welfare Team.

6. Expectations for Our School Community

6.1 Students

Students are expected to wear the correct uniform:

- While on school premises.
- When travelling to and from school.
- During school trips or events where uniform is required.

6.2 Parents and Carers

Parents and carers should ensure their child's uniform is:

- Clean and well-maintained.
- Clearly labelled with their child's name.
- Suitable for school activities.

6.3 Staff

Staff will:

- Monitor students to ensure they are wearing the correct uniform.
- Support families in meeting uniform requirements.
- Take a compassionate approach if financial hardship is a concern.

6.4 Governors

The governing board will:

- Regularly review the policy to ensure it is fair, practical, and inclusive.
- Take parents' and students' feedback into account.
- Ensure the uniform remains suitable and accessible for all students.