

Fairfield High School for Girls

Policy for School Uniform



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Person Responsible:	Headteacher	

Outstanding progress for all

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Aims

At Fairfield High School for Girls we have extremely high expectations of our pupils in all aspects of behaviour. These expectations extend to our high standards around uniform. Wearing uniform is an outward sign that pupils are members of the Fairfield school community. Our pupils must look smart at all times both in and around the school grounds and also when in the community, recognising that they are our ambassadors for our school.

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 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.

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 pupils 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 pupils.
- Allow all pupils to style their hair in the way that is appropriate for school yet makes them feel most comfortable.
- Allow pupils to wear headscarves.
- Allow for adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking pupils or their parents/carers to get in touch with the Senior Assistant Headteacher, who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests.

Our school uniform requirements:

Items marked with * are available from our uniform supplier (see section 7). Other items may be purchased from any retailer.

Trousers*	Pin stripe, navy blue/green, school design. This is for all year groups. Trousers must not be shortened/tailored to allow the ankle to be seen.
Skirt*	Pleated pin stripe, navy blue/green, school design. Skirts are NOT to be rolled at the waist.
Blouse*	Years 7/8/9 - green blouse in a shade and style approved by the Trust Board and available from stockists. Years 10/11 - blue blouse in a shade and style approved by the Trust Board and available from stockists. The blouse should be tucked neatly - front and back into the skirt/trousers at all times. T-shirts must not be visible under blouses.
Jumper or cardigan*	Navy blue, v-neck, <u>plain knit</u> , wool or man-made fibre with the Fairfield school badge.
Tights (compulsory with a skirt)	Plain black or navy, at least 60 denier. No patterns. Socks must not be worn over the top of tights.
Socks (compulsory with trousers)	Plain white, navy or black (up to the knee). Socks must not be worn over the knee. No frills or bows or patterns. Socks must not be worn over tights.
Shoes	Plain black shoes, a sensible style without flashes, logos/stripes or trainer soles. No canvas shoes. No bows, ribbons or large metal clasps. No trainers, sports shoe brands such as Adidas, Nike, Converse, Puma are banned. No boots. Any pupil found to be wearing incorrect footwear in school during the day will be asked to change into a pair of pumps (the school keeps a supply of these). Boots - may be worn to and from school in bad weather, but must be removed and stored in a school bag or locker during the day.
Jewellery	One pair of plain round silver/gold small ear stud earrings <u>only</u> that are worn in the earlobes and do not extend beyond the lobe. No hooped/dangly earrings of any size and no piercings in the tragus part of the ear. No pearl or glitter earrings. No other jewellery, e.g. chains, rings, necklaces, bracelets, nose studs, eyebrow studs, lip studs, any other facial or body piercing or body jewellery. New piercings cannot be covered or replaced with a retainer, they need to be removed. A wrist watch may be worn as long as it is not a Smart watch.
Bag	A strong waterproof bag which is large enough to hold an A4 file.
Make-up	Make up and fake tan is not permitted. Fake eyelashes are not permitted. No coloured contact lenses. No aerosols, e.g. perspirants, deodorants.
Nails	No nail varnish, acrylic/false nails.
Hair	Long hair must be tied back with black, bottle green, navy hair bands/bobbles. Head shaving, unnaturally coloured hair, e.g. stripes or two-tone effects. no decoration other than plain bands/ bobbles. No flower type bobbles or bows. Headscarf – headscarves should be plain navy or black, with no tassels/fringes or decoration. The scarf should be tied neatly, so the school crest is visible on the jumper/cardigan and the colour of the blouse can be seen.
P.E.	Plain white polo shirt either with or without the school badge*. Plain navy-blue or black shorts of an appropriate length, or navy blue or black leggings. Cycling shorts

	<p>are not allowed. Plain white, navy or black socks. Trainers must be worn, please note, pumps/plimsolls/converse type shoes are not allowed owing to health and safety reasons.</p> <p>Where possible, hair must be tied up in a bobble.</p> <p>Optional - navy hoodie with school badge and navy leggings embroidered with the school initials. Note: Hoodies are not to be worn as general school uniform.</p> <p>GCSE PE – red polo shirt with school logo.</p>
Outdoor wear	All outdoor wear including jackets, scarves, gloves or hoodies must not be worn in the school building.
Summer Uniform	Any change to the uniform, as a result of warmer weather, will be up to the discretion of the Headteacher. At this time jumpers will become optional.

Please note

- Parents/carers should ensure that their child is wearing correct uniform at all times, and that any body modification such as false nails or false eyelashes are not worn to school for any reason.
- If your child is found to be wearing jewellery beyond one pair of gold or silver stud earrings, then the jewellery will be confiscated and returned at the end of the day.
- School reserves the right to place pupils who do not conform to wearing the correct uniform into Isolation as per the Policy for Outstanding Conduct and Behaviour.

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.

A recent LA survey across Tameside Secondary Schools (January 2022) revealed that the cost of the Academy Uniform is competitively priced, in line with most schools and cheaper than some which had more expensive uniform requirements or suppliers.

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 polo shirts

- Avoiding specific requirements for items pupils 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 each different year
- 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 pupils on any proposed significant changes to the uniform policy and carefully considering any complaints about the policy

Second-hand items

Any unclaimed items of lost property, together with donations of clean, good condition, outgrown or leavers' uniform items can be made available to all families at no cost.

We ask that families use these items to minimise waste and protect the environment.

Items can be requested discreetly through the 'admin' email on our website.

Hardship fund

The school maintains a limited hardship fund which supports families in need, helping to ensure that every child has opportunity to participate fully in school life. This includes helping families who are struggling to meet the costs of uniform, particularly branded items which cannot be purchased from general retailers.

Applications should be made in writing to the Headteacher, who has the final decision about allocation of this fund, made in consultation with senior and pastoral colleagues. The hardship fund is finite and requests will be processed in the light available resources. Whilst we offer no guarantees that every application will be successful, we encourage those who are in genuine need to consider this as a viable option.

Where to purchase uniform

FAIRFIELD HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS UNIFORM SUPPLIERS

Our school uniform can be obtained from our four bespoke suppliers:

M.C.S. STORES

32 Market Street – Ashton-Under-Lyne – OL6 6ER

Telephone Number – 0161 339 9845 or 0161 445 7740

PANACHE SCHOOLWEAR

90 Market Street – Droylsden – Manchester – M43 6DE
Telephone Number – 0161 301 5570

SALLIES SCHOOLWEAR

39 Manchester Road – Denton – Manchester – M34 3JU
Telephone Number – 0161 336 3305

TOP MARKS SCHOOLWEAR

82 Old Street - Ladysmith Centre - Ashton-Under-Lyne - OL6 7JR
Telephone Number - 0161 343 2900

Expectations for our school community

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 Dr Beckett, Senior Assistant Headteacher for Pastoral, Behaviour and Safeguarding if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to their protected characteristics.

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 Dr Beckett 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.

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.

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 our Policy for Outstanding Conduct and Behaviour.

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.

The Trust Board

The Trust 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 Trust 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.

Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed and approved annually by the Trust Board.

The Trust Board will ensure that this policy

- Offers a uniform that is appropriate, practical and safe for all pupils.
- Is implemented fairly across the school.
- Takes into account the views of parents and pupils when any significant uniform changes are proposed.
- Makes sure that our uniform supplier gives high priority to cost and value for money, by ensuring that we re-tender our supplier contract at least every 5 years.

Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

Policy for Outstanding Conduct and Behaviour

Policy for Equality and Equality Objectives statement

Policy for Anti-Bullying

Policy for School Concerns and Complaints