

School Uniform Policy

1. RATIONALE

It is our belief that the wearing of a school uniform that is of a reasonable cost and offers the best value for money for parents and carers, will help our pupils to develop a sense of pride in our school, identify with our school community and will promote pupil equality.

At Swakeleys School For Girls, all pupils in Years 7 -11 are required to wear school uniform as identified in Appendix A , whilst on the school premises, travelling to and from school and at out of school events unless directed otherwise or on specified non uniform days.

2. OBJECTIVES

The objectives of this policy are to :-

- Clarify our expectations for school uniform
- Set out the school's legal duties under the Equality Act 2010

3. SUCCESS CRITERIA

- All pupils in Years 7 -11 will wear the school uniform
- Pupils will be able to identify with the school community and have equality with their peers
- Parents will be able to shop around for a “low “ price for the non-distinctive items

4 IMPLEMENTATION

- The school will ensure that the school uniform is available at a reasonable cost and provides best value for money for parents and carers by limiting the number of items that have a distinctive characteristic which prevents parents' ability to shop around. The school considers that the items with distinct characteristics are necessary for the purpose of establishing the school identity and as such the school has limited these items to three, namely the school blazer, the school jumper and the branded P.E. shirt.
- The school's preferred supplier is W & S Sports of Unit D. Station Yard, Thame, OXON. Items that are not specifically distinctive to our school may be purchased from other retailers but MUST conform to the School Uniform as identified in Appendix A.
- Parents are expected to make sure that their child/children has the correct uniform and that every item is clean and clearly labelled with their child/children 's name and that it is clean and in good condition,

Appendix A

- Parents are able to contact Mrs G Hare, Deputy Headteacher of they wish to request an amendment to the Policy for their child/children in relation to their child's protected characteristics or the cost of the uniform. The school will work closely with Parents to arrive at a mutually accepted outcome. If this is not possible, then Parents MUST make representation to the Chair of Governors, Mr D Charles, in writing.
- Pupils are expected to wear the correct uniform (other than specified non- uniform days) whilst on the school premises, travelling to and from school and at out of school events unless directed otherwise.
- 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. In addition, the school offers a "nearly new" shop which is available upon request for the purchase of nearly new items of school uniform at a discounted price. The shop will also be available at Parents' Evenings and other school events throughout the year. In cases of hardship, where circumstances prevent a parent from purchasing items of school uniform application can be made to the school for financial support. All applications MUST be made in writing to the Headteacher for consideration.
- Staff will closely monitor the pupils to make sure that they are wearing the correct uniform. Pupils not wearing the correct uniform without a good reason will be issued with a detention and persistent issues may result in other sanctions. If a pupil is not able to wear the correct uniform due to reasons of hardship or unexpected reasons, a red card will be issued for a specific time period. On going breaches of our Uniform Policy will be dealt with in accordance with our Behaviour Policy.

5. 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 have long hair (though we reserve the right to ask for this to be tied back)
- 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 and other religious or cultural symbols
- Allow for adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking pupils or their parents to get in touch with Mrs G Hare, Deputy Headteacher at the school who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests.

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6. MONITORING

This policy will be reviewed every two years by the Governing Body

7. LINKS TO OTHER POLICIES

This Policy is linked to our :-

- Behaviour Policy
- Equality Policy
- Anti- Bullying Policy
- Complaints Policy

Appendix A

SCHOOL UNIFORM

All items in **Bold** are compulsory

Years 7 - 10

- **Grey Swakeleys School For Girls blazer available from W and S Sports.**
- **Black knitted, v-necked jumper with one emerald green stripe in the 'V'.**
- **For all years there is a black standard double pleat skirt available from W and S Sports.**
- **For all years there is a choice of two styles of uniform trouser that are available from W and S Sports.**
- **Plain green polyester-cotton blouse with collar, long or short sleeves.**
- Socks should be black or white/natural or black tights with no designs or patterns.
- **Black low-heeled formal shoes** (no more than 1 inch /2cm – not stiletto heels/platform soles/clogs/ankle or knee length boots/or any 'slingback', backless or open toed shoes). Shoe laces must be black. No trainers or canvas shoes. Shoes must be leather/leather look and without fashion accessories or embellishments. .
- A warm, practical/waterproof coat. No hoodies or sweatshirts with hoods.
- Sandals and no socks if the weather is hot in the last half of the academic year. (Sandals must be black or white, but not slip on).
- Make-up **is not** permitted in Years 7-9. This includes foundation and mascara and eyebrow enhancement.
- Hair must be a natural shade/colour and extreme hair styles are not permitted. The headteacher will make the final decision on what constitutes "extreme".
- Light foundation and natural looking mascara may be worn in Years 10 and 11.
- Nail varnish and false nails of any kind are not permitted.
- Hair accessories must be understated and black, white, green, gold or silver. They should not be decorative .e.g. with large flowers, patterns.
- Any pupil who needs, for religious reasons, to wear a headscarf may do so (except for PE) as long as it is **plain white, black or emerald green with no embellishments. Hair grips should be used as fasteners. No pins are allowed.**

Year 11

- **As above except the green shirt should be substituted for white.**

*If a blazer is worn, the wearing of a school jumper is optional. All pupils are required to own a school jumper as this will be needed in colder weather.

P.E. - All years:

- **House colour aertex shirt from W and S Sports**
- **Plain black football style shorts**
- **White football-type knee-length socks**
- **Lace up running trainers if unsure check with the PE department before purchase.**
- Football boots (optional)
- Black PE bottoms
- A change of clean socks is essential, as feet get wet during games lessons.
- Pupils who wear a headscarf for religious reasons should wear a black elasticated sports headscarf that does not go around the neck. During the summer term when we are outside pupils will be allowed to wear a scarf that covers the neck but it must still be a plain, sports designed tight fitting one.
- All jewellery must be removed for PE lessons. In the event a religious bracelet cannot be removed it must be covered by a sweatband.
- Black sweatshirt no hood (optional)

Our approved suppliers are:-

W & S Sports, Woodward and Stalder

Orders can be made through their website www.wssports.co.uk

The only jewellery which may be worn to school is:

- A watch
- Plain round ear-studs (gold/silver or clear) if a girl has pierced ears (**one set only**). They must not exceed 5mm diameter and must be worn at the bottom of the ear.
- One plain ring (large signet rings and sovereign rings are not permitted for safety reasons)
- Religious jewellery e.g. cross on a plain chain (tucked inside the shirt) or a Kara (Sikh) bangle.
- A nose stud. **This must be small, plain gold/silver or clear and discreet and is worn at the owner's risk.** No other forms of body piercing are allowed.

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Appendix A

No other jewellery is allowed; if worn, it will be confiscated. No other piercings of any kind are permitted.

- Confiscated jewellery is put in a sealed envelope, signed by teacher, taken to the school office and then placed in a secure cabinet until the end of term or until collected by a parent.
- **Parents should give the School Office 24 hours notice before coming to collect jewellery.**

Please note that the school uniform includes the school ID card and lanyard which should be worn at all times.

Girls who break uniform rules will be issued with a detention.

The Welfare Assistant will have a reserve of clean items of school uniform which girls will be asked to borrow if, for any reason, their own uniform is inappropriate. The school reserves the right to educate any pupil not wearing correct school uniform in alternative provision.