

Ormiston Academies Trust

Cliff Park Ormiston Academy

Uniform policy

Policy version control

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1. Aims

1.1. 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 the academy will avoid discrimination in line with its legal duties under the Equality Act 2010
- Clarify the expectations for school uniform

2. Legal duties under the Equality Act 2010

2.1. 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.

2.2. To avoid discrimination, the academy 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 Ms Waters awaters@cliffparkoa.co.uk, 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

3.1. The academy will take all reasonable steps to limit the cost of the school uniform.

3.2. 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.

3.3. 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.

3.4. We will make sure our uniform:

- Is available at a reasonable cost
- Provides the best value for money for parents/carers

3.5. We will ensure this by:

3.5.1. Following the statutory limits for compulsory branded items of uniform and PE kit to a maximum of:

The academy blazer and PE top. The academy jumper is optional.

3.5.2. Limiting compulsory branded items to low-cost and/or long-lasting items. Student ties which have year colours on them will remain the same for the students' duration at the academy.

3.5.3. Considering cheaper alternatives to school-branded items, such as logos that can be ironed on, as long as this doesn't compromise quality and durability

3.5.4. 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

3.5.5. Avoiding different uniform requirements for different year/class/house groups

3.5.6. Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities including (but not limited to) sport, music and drama

3.5.7. Avoiding requiring different branded items for particular times of the year, such as a branded dress in summer and a branded skirt in winter

3.5.8. Considering alternative methods for signalling differences in groups for inter-school competitions, such as creating posters

3.5.9. Considering alternative approaches, including loaning compulsory branded items such as sports kit for competitions

3.5.10. 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

3.5.11. Avoiding frequent changes to uniform specifications, and minimising the financial impact on parents/carers of any changes

3.5.12. 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

- 3.5.13. Avoiding single-supplier contracts, to make sure generic items can be purchased from a range of retailers
- 3.5.14. Continuing to review this policy, to ensure the cost of our uniform is reasonable and provides the best value for money

4. Expectations for academy uniform

4.1. The academy uniform

- 4.1.1. Branded Items – Blazer with logo, tie (colour of year group)
- 4.1.2. Optional branded item – school jumper – if worn it must have a logo.
- 4.1.3. Expectations for PE – polo shirt and fleece to have a logo
- 4.1.4. Make-up – only discreet / natural make up and nail varnish is permitted.
- 4.1.5. Nail varnish and false nails – students can wear **natural** coloured nail polish and nails. For health and safety reasons, nails must be short and suitable for PE and technical subjects.
- 4.1.6. Jewellery – students may wear a wristwatch (not smart watches) and as many stud earrings as they wish. They may wear one discreet ring and one discreet bracelet – not charm bracelets. No other jewellery is permitted except a discreet religious symbol. For health and safety, no other form of facial or body piercing is permitted and will be confiscated or requested to cover up. Any inappropriate jewellery will be confiscated and placed in the school safe.
- 4.1.7. Expectations for generic items, such as:
- Trouser / Skirts – black and loose fitting for comfort and to meets standards of modesty. Ideally skirts will be pleated to avoid them being rolled up. Tube skirts are not acceptable. Leggings are not acceptable. Jeans are not acceptable.
 - White shirts / blouses – loose fitting for comfort
 - Black shoes / nike air force trainers – all black.
- 4.1.8. Expectations for PE kit – White logo PE top / New blue logo PE top / plain white top / navy or black shorts/skorts, joggers, leggings, jumpers. No nike pro shorts or cycling shorts.
- 4.1.9. Expectations for jewellery and hair – taking into account the requirement described in section 2, to avoid discrimination in line with the Equality Act 2010
- 4.1.10. Expectations for coats and bags – no offensive logos on either. Bags should be big enough to carry everything needed in the day.

4.2. Where to purchase uniform

4.2.1. All logo items can be purchased from Harrisons School Wear – Southtown Road. Any non-logo items can be purchased from any supermarket or clothes shop.

- Where parents and carers can buy school uniforms, including where items are only available from a specific retailer or can be bought more widely, such as from high-street retailers.
- If the cost of uniform is a barrier for parents then the academy will do best endeavours to support parents to find second hand uniform. shuggins@cliffparkoa.co.uk will give parents details of uniform exchange schemes of they are running locally.

5. Expectations for the academy community

5.1. Pupils

5.1.1. Pupils are expected to wear the correct uniform at all times (other than specified non-school uniform days) while:

5.1.1.1. On the school premises

5.1.1.2. Travelling to and from school

5.1.1.3. At off-site events or on trips that are organised by the school, or where they are representing the school (if required)

5.1.2. Pupils are also expected to contact awaters@cliffparkoa.co.uk if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to their protected characteristics.

5.2. Parents and carers

5.2.1. Parents and carers are expected to make sure their child has the correct uniform and PE kit, and that every item is:

5.2.1.1. Clean

5.2.1.2. Clearly labelled with the child's name

5.2.1.3. In good condition

5.2.2. Parents are also expected to contact shuggins@cliffparkoa.co.uk if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to:

5.2.2.1. Their child's protected characteristics

5.2.2.2. The cost of the uniform

5.2.3. Parents 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.

5.2.4. Disputes about the cost of the school uniform will be:

5.2.4.1. Resolved locally

5.2.4.2. Dealt with in accordance with our school's complaints policy

5.2.5. The school will work closely with parents to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.

5.3. Staff

5.3.1. 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 principal if the situation doesn't improve.

5.3.2. Ongoing breaches of our uniform policy will be dealt with by the behaviour pathway.

5.3.3. 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

5.4.1. The governing body will review this policy to ensure it:

5.4.1.1. Is appropriate for the academy's context

5.4.1.2. Is implemented fairly across the school

5.4.1.3. Takes into account the views of parents and pupils

5.4.1.4. Offers a uniform that is appropriate, practical and safe for all pupils

5.4.2. The governing body will also ensure that the school's uniform supplier arrangements give the highest priority to cost and value for money by re-rendering every 5 years.

6. Monitoring arrangements

6.1. This policy will be reviewed every year by A Waters – Vice Principal for Student Care. At every review, it will be approved by the full governing body.

7. Links to other policies

7.1. This policy is linked to our:

- Behaviour policy
- Equality information and objectives statement
- Anti-bullying policy
- Complaints policy
- Charging and remissions policy (for any references to charging)
- SEND policy