

# Alt Bridge School Uniform Policy



Approved by:	Mrs. N. Menagh	Date: 25.09.22
Reviewed by governors :	18.10.22	
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### 1. Aims

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

### 2. 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 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 request changes to swimwear for religious reasons
- › 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. M. Freeman on 477 8310 who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests

### 3. 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.

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 to the school blazer and school sweatshirt/cardigan: Please note the wearing of school Blazers is **not** compulsory but is encouraged, pupils who do not wear a blazer must wear a school sweatshirt/cardigan with the school logo.
- › Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost or long-lasting items, such as ties
- › Considering cheaper alternatives to school-branded items, as long as items are colour-matched to the school uniform choices.
- › 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 different year/class/house groups
- › 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 – our school creative enterprise café provide recycled uniform items for parents/carers to choose from.
- › 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

## 4. Expectations for school uniform

**4.1 Our school's uniform – see appendix 1 below.**

**4.2 Where to Purchase Uniform – see appendix 1 below**

## 5. Expectations for our school community

### 5.1 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 Mrs. M. Freeman (School Business Manager) if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to their protected characteristics.

## 5.2 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 Mrs. M. Freeman 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 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 to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.

## 5.3 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 reference to the School's Behaviour Policy.

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.

We will give due consideration to any requests for reasonable adjustments due to the special educational needs and/or disabilities affecting a student.

## 5.4 Governors

The governing 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 and pupils
- Offers a uniform that is appropriate, practical and safe for all pupils

The Governors 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.

## 6. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed by the school on a 3 year basis. At every review, it will be approved by the full governing body.

## 7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

- Behaviour for learning policy
- Equality information and objectives statement
- Anti-bullying policy
- Complaints policy

### Alt Bridge School Uniform List

<u>Waterproof Coat</u>	Fleeced lined navy blue with <b>school logo</b> – available from <b>Top Form and alternative outlets (without logo)</b>
Blazer	Navy with School Badge - available from <b>Top Form</b> Navy blazer – available from alternative outlets School Badge – available from Top Form
Trousers/skirts	Grey/Black – available from alternative outlets
Shirt/blouse	White or pale blue – available from alternative outlets
Polo shirt	Navy with logo - available from <b>Top Form</b> Plain Navy/White - available from alternative outlets
Sweatshirt/Cardigan	Navy with school logo – available <b>Top Form</b> <b>Navy without logo – alternative outlets</b>
Tie	School tie available from <b>Top Form &amp; school office</b>
Shoes/Trainers	Black

### PE Uniform

Can be purchased from **Top Form**: White T shirt (with logo) / Navy Shorts / Navy Socks  
or from alternative outlets

### Outdoor Curriculum - Discretionary

**Waterproof jacket** Waterproof light weight jacket – black with school logo –  
available from **Top Form**

**Waterproof Trousers** Waterproof light weight trousers – black **Top Form**

**Plain unbranded alternatives may be worn.**

In the summer months and when the weather is hot pupils will be allowed to come into school without a jumper or a blazer.

### Where to purchase it

Parents will be able to place orders directly with Top Form.

Uniform purchases can also be made via alternative retailers such as Asda, Tesco, M & S etc.



**Top Form (NW) Limited**  
Unit 22, Sinclair Way,  
Prescot Business Park  
Knowsley, L34 1PB

t 0151 426 1813 f 0151 426 4127  
[www.schooluniformknowsley.co.uk](http://www.schooluniformknowsley.co.uk)

**We also have a selection of pre-owned uniform available from school for parents/carers to choose from.**