

## **SCHOOL UNIFORM POLICY**

## School Uniform Policy

<b>Policy Area</b>	Pastoral
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<b>Relevant statutory Regs</b>	Welfare, health and safety of pupils
<b>Senior team lead(s)</b>	Deputy Head, Pastoral; Head of Prep
<b>Version</b>	2022.2
<b>Last updated</b>	September 2022
<b>Review date</b>	June 2023

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# 1. Introduction

Abbot's Hill School expects pupils to take pride in their appearance, as befits a professional environment.

This policy applies to all pupils of Abbot's Hill, including EYFS pupils from the time they move into Stepping Up.

We ask all parents and carers who send their children to our school to support the school uniform policy.

# 2. Aims

This policy aims to:

- o Set out our approach to requiring a uniform that is of reasonable cost and offers the best value for money for parents and carers
- o Explain how we will avoid discrimination in line with our legal duties under the Equality Act 2010
- o Clarify our expectations for school uniform

# 3. 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:

- o Giving all pupils the opportunity to wear the uniform they feel most comfortable in or that most reflects their self-identified gender
- o Make sure that our uniform cost is controlled by clearly stating compulsory and optional items
- o Allow all pupils to have long hair (though we reserve the right to ask for this to be tied back)
- o Allow all pupils to style their hair in the way that is appropriate for school yet makes them feel most comfortable
- o Allow pupils to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons
- o Allow pupils to wear headscarves and other religious or cultural symbols
- o Allow for adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking pupils or their parents to get in touch with Mrs J Davison, Inclusion Lead, who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests

# 4. Limiting the cost of school uniform

Our school has a duty to make sure that the uniform we require is affordable.

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:

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

We will do this by:

- o Carefully considering whether any items with distinctive characteristics are necessary
- o Limiting any items with distinctive characteristics where possible
- o Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost or long-lasting items, such as blazers
- o Considering cheaper alternatives to school-branded items
- o Avoiding specific requirements for items pupils could wear on non-school days, such as coats, bags and shoes
- o Keeping the number of optional branded items to a minimum, so that the school's uniform can act as a social leveler
- o Avoiding different uniform requirements for different year/class/house groups where possible
- o Avoiding different uniform requirements for co-curricular activities where possible
- o Making sure that arrangements are in place for parents to acquire second-hand uniform items
- o Avoiding frequent changes to uniform specifications and minimising the financial impact on parents of any changes
- o Consulting with parents and pupils on any proposed significant changes to the uniform policy and carefully considering any complaints about the policy

## **5. Expectations for school uniform**

### **5.1 Our School Uniform**

The full list of School Uniform is displayed in the Parent Handbook and is shown in Appendix A.

#### **Jewellery**

Pupils may wear one discrete stud in each ear and small objects of religious significance, such as a crucifix on a chain. No jewellery is to be worn during PE or Games. Body piercing is not allowed. For Health and Safety reasons, children in EYFS (Nursery and Reception) may not wear a necklace.

#### **Hair**

Hair should be tied back where it is of a length that it is possible to do so and secured with accessories as per the uniform list. Hair should be of a natural colour and roots should be the same colour as the rest of the hair.

#### **Footwear**

Pupils may not wear shoes that have platform soles or high heels. Neither do we allow pupils to wear trainers to school. We require all pupils to wear leather, non-branded shoes as per the uniform list.

#### **Coats**

Senior School pupils are expected to wear a non-branded Navy or Black Coat to and from school. This should be stored in a locker during the school day. In extreme weather this can be worn around the site between lessons but should be removed on entering buildings.

#### **PE and Swimming kit**

Required and optional items are available to view in the Appendices to this policy and at [www.schoolblazer.com](http://www.schoolblazer.com).

## **5.2 Where to purchase it**

All Abbot's Hill school uniform (except where indicated on the list) must be purchased from our suppliers, Schoolblazer, at: [www.schoolblazer.com](http://www.schoolblazer.com). There is an easy-to-use sizing guide available on their website.

The school parents' association (AHSPA) operates a second hand uniform shop. For sizing purposes, a small number of sample items will be available in the second hand uniform shop.

## **6. Expectations for Abbot's Hill School**

### **6.1 Pupils**

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

- o On the school premises
- o Travelling to and from school
- o 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 J Davison, Inclusion Lead, if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to their protected characteristics.

### **6.2 Care of possessions**

6.2.1 All property should be stored safely at school: in the Senior School, lockers are provided for books and a sports locker is provided for PE kit. Parents should provide a combination lock for each locker.

6.2.2 All pupils must respect each other's property. It is forbidden to enter another pupil's bag or locker to borrow items of uniform or equipment from another pupil without their express permission. Items must be returned after use.

6.2.3 At Abbot's Hill School, we expect pupils to be responsible. If they find an item of named property that has been left somewhere, they should endeavour to return it to the owner. Failing that, to the class or form tutor. If they lose an item of property, they should first try to locate it and only then alert their class or form teacher who can place an alert on the staff noticeboard.

6.2.4 A lost property amnesty will be arranged at the end of each term. Any unnamed or unclaimed items will be donated to the second-hand uniform shop.

6.2.5 Senior School only: bags or possessions causing a hazard – for example left in corridors or the floor of common rooms – will be confiscated and taken to the Pastoral Hub from where the pupil must arrange collection.

### **6.3 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:

- o Clean
- o Clearly labelled with the child's name
- o In good condition

Parents are asked to contact their child's Head of Year if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to:

- o Their child's protected characteristics
- o 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:

- o Resolved locally
- o 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.

#### **6.4 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 the procedures laid out in the Promoting Positive Behaviour Policy if the situation doesn't improve.

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.

#### **6.5 Governors**

The governing board will review this policy and make sure that it:

- o Is appropriate for our school's context
- o Is implemented fairly across the school
- o Takes into account the views of parents and pupils
- o Offers a uniform that is appropriate, practical and safe for all pupils

The 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.

### **7. Monitoring arrangements**

This policy will be reviewed annually by the Deputy Head, Pastoral and Head of Prep. At every review, it will be approved by the Head.

### **8. Links to other policies**

This policy is linked to our:

- o Promoting Positive Behaviour policy
- o Equal Opportunities Policy
- o Anti-bullying policy
- o Complaints policy

**Signed**

Issue Date: September 2022

Review Date: June 2023 or earlier if major change

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'K. Gorman', with a small flourish at the end.

Mrs Kathryn Gorman

**Head**

## **Appendix A**

### **Pre-Prep (Reception – Year 2) Uniform Requirements**

#### **Reception**

- Navy shorts
- Navy jogging bottoms
- Navy crested polo shirt
- Navy socks
- Navy crested sweatshirt
- Sports trainers (non marking soles)
- Navy crested stormproof coat
- Navy swimming costume, one piece
- Navy blue/black waterproof jacket and trouser
- Wellington boots

#### **Year 1-2 Pre-Prep School Winter Uniform worn from October half term and Spring Term**

- Navy crested polo neck jumper or white revere collar blouse (long or short sleeved)
- Tartan pinafore (Black Watch) or Navy shorts
- Bottle green 'V' neck jumper with contrast trim
- Black leather shoes with strap or velcro
- Navy knee length cotton socks or tights
- Navy crested stormproof coat
- Hat, gloves, scarf (optional) – Any colour from Black Watch tartan; must be plain knit fabric or fleece. No other design of outdoor wear may be worn.

#### **Year 1-2 Pre-Prep School Summer Uniform worn Summer Term and Autumn first half term**

- White and sky blue summer dress
- Navy summer cardigan
- White ankle socks (not sports socks)
- Navy baseball cap
- Black leather shoes with strap or velcro

#### **Year 1-2 PE Kit Items to be obtained from schoolblazer**

- Navy crested polo shirt
- Clan T-shirt    Cameron (Red)            MacDonald (Blue)            Macneil (Green)  
(please note that the first Clan T-Shirt will be provided by the school)
- Navy crested PE shorts
- Navy crested sweatshirt
- Navy crested PE bag
- Navy crested stormproof coat

#### **Year 1-2 Other Compulsory PE Items Not available from schoolblazer**

- Navy jogging bottoms
- Sport socks; white (2 pairs)
- Sports trainers (non-marking soles)

All footwear should have a name on underside of tongue or inner heel



**Year 1-2 Miscellaneous items**

- Book Bag
- Hair accessories (to match uniform)
- Blue legionnaire cap (compulsory in summer uniform)
- Waterbottle (named)

**Year 1-2 Woodland School Kit**

- Navy leggings
- Navy blue/black waterproof jacket and trousers (ideally with fleece lining)
- Wellington boots
- Gloves
- Hat
- warm socks

## **Prep (Year 3 – Year 6) Uniform Requirements**

### **Prep School Winter Uniform**

- Navy crested blazer (Year 3-6) or Navy fitted blazer (Year 5 and 6)
- Navy crested polo neck jumper or white revere collar blouse (long or short sleeved)
- Tartan pinafore (Black Watch) or Tartan Kilts (Year 5 and 6)
- Bottle green 'V' neck jumper with contrast trim
- Non branded weather proof, supportive black leather shoes (not suede or canvas)
- Navy knee length socks or tights
- Navy crested stormproof coat
- Hat, gloves, scarf (optional) – Any colour from Black Watch tartan; must be plain knit fabric or fleece. No other design of outdoor wear may be worn.

### **Prep School Summer Uniform**

- Navy crested blazer (Year 3-6) or Navy fitted blazer (Year 5 and 6)
- White and sky blue summer dress
- Navy summer cardigan
- White ankle socks (not sports socks)
- Non branded weather proof, supportive, black leather shoes (not suede or canvas)
- Navy baseball cap

### **PE Kit Items (to be obtained from Schoolblazer)**

- Navy crested polo shirt
- Clan T-shirt    Cameron (Red)                      MacDonald (Blue)                      Macneil (Green)  
(please note that the first Clan T-Shirt will be provided by the school and presented in an assembly)
- Navy crested skort
- Navy crested PE shorts
- Navy crested midlayer top
- Navy crested tracksuit top
- Navy crested training pants
- Navy swimming costume, one piece
- Navy swim hat
- Coral, light green, white, navy games socks; knee-length (2 pairs)
- Sport socks; white (2 pairs)
- Navy crested games bag

### **Other Compulsory PE Items (Not available from Schoolblazer)**

- Football boots (moulded or screw-in studs)
- Indoor sports trainers for the Sports Hall (not flat heels, non-marking soles)
- Outdoor sports trainers
- Towel for swimming (name tape should be sewn by the tag)

All footwear should have a name on underside of tongue or inner heel

### **Optional Items**

Navy crested ear warmers /Navy crested baselayer top /Navy crested baselayer leggings

### **Miscellaneous items**

- Navy crested rucksack
- Hair accessories (to match uniform)
- Wellington boots

## Senior School Uniform

- Navy crested fitted blazer; to be available to be worn in school at all times
- Navy quilted jacket (optional) or a non branded navy or black waterproof coat
- Cream (long or short sleeved) revere collar blouse optional (Discontinued September 2023)
- White (long or short sleeved) revere collar blouse optional (Compulsory from September 2023)
- Tartan kilt (Black Watch) or Navy trousers. (Kilts must be on the knee or just above the knee)
- Bottle green 'V' neck jumper with contrast trim
- Non branded Black leather shoes (not suede or canvas). Maximum heel height 5cm. Shoes must provide adequate support and be suitable for wet weather
- Black ankle or knee length socks or tights (minimum 70 denier)
- Hat, gloves, scarf (optional) – Any colour from Black Watch tartan; must be plain knit fabric or fleece. These items are only worn outside the school building. No other design of outdoor wear may be worn.

Summer Uniform will be discontinued in 2023. Current pupils may wear Summer Uniform at the start of the Academic Year 2022 until October half term.

### PE Kit Items to be obtained from Schoolblazer

- Navy crested polo shirt
- Clan Polo Shirt    Cameron (Red)                      MacDonald (Blue)                      Macneil (Green)  
(please note that the first Clan T-Shirt will be provided by the school and presented in an assembly)
- Navy crested skort
- Navy crested fitness shorts
- Navy crested midlayer top
- Navy crested tracksuit top
- Navy crested training pants
- Navy swimming costume, one piece
- Navy swim hat
- Coral, light green, white, navy games socks; knee-length (2 pairs)
- Sport socks; white (2 pairs)
- Navy crested games bag

### Other Compulsory PE Items Not available from Schoolblazer

- Lacrosse stick
  - Lacrosse goggles
  - Mouth guards
  - Football boots (moulded or screw-in studs)
  - Indoor sports trainers for the Sports Hall (not flat heels, non-marking soles)
  - Outdoor sports trainers
  - Towel for swimming a name tape should be sewn by the tag
- All footwear should have a name tape sewn on underside of tongue or peel and stick label on inner heel

### Optional Items

Navy crested ear warmers /Navy crested baselayer top /Navy crested baselayer leggings  
Navy crested swim bag/ Spikes / Tennis Racket rackets and covers must be named.