



Kingsdale Foundation School

Uniform Policy

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Next Review: Summer 2027

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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 students 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 students
- › Allow all students to have long hair (though we reserve the right to ask for this to be tied back)
- › Allow all students to style their hair in the way that is appropriate for school yet makes them feel most comfortable
- › Allow students to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons
- › Allow students to wear headscarves and other religious or cultural symbols
- › Allow for adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking students or their parents to get in touch with Mrs V. Turner (School Equalities Lead via ytr@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk) 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. At Kingsdale, our policy has been and shall remain, to include as many low-cost generic items and alternatives to branded items as possible in order to maximise accessibility.

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. Our school blazer and school ties are the only items that require a distinct logo. We keep the prices of these items low and they can be purchased at cost-price from our school shop [here](#)
- Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost or long-lasting items, such as ties (please see above)
- 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
- Avoiding specific requirements for items students 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 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. Please contact Mr Jones or Mr Lewis if you would like to access our pre-worn school uniform shop via jj@s@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk or jl@s@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk
- Avoiding frequent changes to uniform specifications and minimising the financial impact on parents of any changes
- Consulting with parents and students 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

At Kingsdale Foundation School, all students are expected to wear their uniform correctly and with pride. All Kingsdale Foundation School students are required to wear full school uniform.

The uniform for Key Stage 3 & 4 (Years 7-11) is as follows:

SCHOOL BLAZER Black, of a traditional design with school badge

TROUSERS Plain black standard style school trousers for both girls and boys. (Jeans, chinos, leggings, combat trousers – without or without pockets, jeggings or similar are not permitted)

SKIRT Standard plain black box pleat, elastic waist, school skirt worn at a length no shorter than 8cm above the knee (credit card)

(For those students choosing to wear a school skirt, plain black tights should be worn during the Autumn term, (recommended minimum denier of 60), with the option of wearing plain white or black summer socks (ankle socks) during the spring and summer terms). Skirts may only be worn at the discretion of the school

PULLOVER Plain black wool knit with 'V' neck. **ROUNDNECK JUMPERS, SWEAT SHIRTS and HOODED TOPS** are not allowed.

SCHOOL TIE Kingsdale School tie, with house colours as appropriate, worn at a length displaying a minimum of 7 stripes.

BLOUSE/SHIRT White with collar suitable for a tie (tucked-in at all times).

PE KIT Black shorts/joggers (these should be plain and note that cycle shorts, 'skorts' and/or leggings are not permitted), plain red polo shirt (KS3), plain navy blue polo shirt (KS4). (Polo shirts and PE sweatshirts are also available from the school shop [here](#)).

Swimming clothing must be modest and comprise lycra shorts/trunks/one-piece costumes or similar. No colour or specific brand required. A black or red swimming costume is preferred, although for competitions, the school will supply a branded Kingsdale swimming hat free of charge for competing students.

SHOES Plain Black, of a type suitable for school. Please note that trainers marketed as school shoes are not permitted. The general rule of thumb is that shoes should be polishable. Trainers are not allowed unless a student is wearing PE kit to school on the day that they have a timetabled PE lesson (not a club). It is not permitted for students to wear trainers or a PE jumper/top with their school uniform, i.e. hybrid approach.

The dress code for Key Stage 5 (Sixth Form) students can be accessed via the link at the bottom of the page. Please note that this is based on generic smart attire suitable for work which can be purchased at a range of outlets. Key Stage 5 students must wear their lanyard and ID badge at all times and may be denied access to the school site if they do not adhere to this important safeguarding policy.

OVERCOATS An outdoor coat of a plain and dark colour. No slogans. Denim is not allowed. Coats must not be worn or carried on school premises, unless specific permission in colder months has been given by the Headteacher.

BAGS There is no requirement for a specific school bag, although colours should be plain and of a dark colour. Designs should be suitable for the school environment.

HAIRSTYLES Only hairstyles of a moderate design are permitted. The judgement of the Head of Upper/Lower School will be final.

THE HALO CODE

Kingsdale champions the right of staff and students to embrace all Afro-hairstyles. We acknowledge that Afro-textured hair is an important part of our Black staff and students' racial, ethnic, cultural, and religious identities, and requires specific styling for hair health and maintenance.

We welcome Afro-textured hair worn in all styles including, but not limited to, afros, locs, twists, braids, cornrows, fades, hair straightened through the application of heat or chemicals, weaves & wigs.

At this school, we recognise and celebrate our staff and students' identities. We are a community built on an ethos of equality and respect.

Jewellery – A single small earring/ear stud may be worn. One small pair of earrings may be worn at the discretion of the school. Excess jewellery, including rings, will be confiscated for an indefinite period or must be collected by parent/carer by prior appointment.

Please note that the only branded items that are required by this policy are the school badge and the school tie. Both are available at cost price from the school shop, accessible [here](#). All other items can be purchased in a range of shops and outlets, being of generic design. *The school reserves the right to amend the policy in response to seasonal weather conditions and will always seek to give advance notice to parents and students where local variations are implemented.*

4.2 Where to purchase it

Our uniform has been designed to be widely available in generic form from a variety of retailers including clothiers and supermarkets. This includes black blazers, trousers/skirts, PE polo tops, shorts and track suits, shoes and jumpers.

Our school badge is available as an iron-on fabric badge from the school shop. Our school ties can be purchased at cost price from our school shop. You can also buy PE polo tops and jumpers from the school shop at cost price. You can access the school shop [here](#).

Our Pre-Worn School Shop sells a range of second-hand uniform items at a low price. You can find out more by contacting Mr Lewis via jls@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk or Mr Jones via jj@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk

A number of local uniform suppliers stock the generic items that comprise our uniform. You can obtain details of local suppliers from our Admissions Office here – euo@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk

5. Expectations for our school community

5.1 Students

Students 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)
- During school events, such as music performances, assemblies, award ceremonies etc

Students are also expected to contact Ms V. Turner via vtr@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to their protected characteristics.

The following items are not permitted at Kingsdale:

Prohibited & Restricted Items

Aerosol sprays (including deodorants), felt-tipped marker and/or colouring sticks and any tools or implements that could be deemed dangerous, including scissors.

Mobile Phones, electronic games and other high-value items are only allowed in line with our Mobile Phone Policy. This policy sets out clear expectations regarding which devices are permitted by which year group and sanctions for breaches of this policy. Possession of electronic equipment increases the chance of becoming a victim of crime. The school is not obliged to conduct a separate investigation concerning theft of any unauthorised items but will report and support a police investigation.

Only school registered iPads are permitted on the school site.

Mobile phones are only permitted under the terms of the School's Mobile Phone Policy and may be confiscated if seen by members of staff on site, during the school day, before and after school.

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 Ms Turner – vtr@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk 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. Please contact Mr D. Harding via dhg@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk as required in this regard.

All queries relating to lost property, should be sent to lostproperty@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk While we try to locate and reconcile all lost items, we regret that this is often very difficult if items are unlabelled. *Please be aware that the school accepts no liability for the loss, theft or damage to high-value items, including electronic equipment, clothing and stationery.*

5.3 Staff

Staff will closely monitor students to make sure they are in correct uniform. They will give any students and families breaching the uniform policy the opportunity to comply, but will follow this up with senior staff if the situation doesn't improve.

Ongoing breaches of our uniform policy will be dealt with by the relevant pastoral staff in line with the Achievement and Behaviour Policy.

In cases where it is suspected that financial hardship has resulted in a student not complying with this uniform policy, staff will take a mindful and considerate approach to resolving the situation.

More information in regards to our fund for families who may require financial assistance with uniform can be obtained in confidence from Ms T. Dyer, PA to the Senior Management Team via asrpa@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk

5.4 Governors

The governing body 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 students
- › Offers a uniform that is appropriate, practical and safe for all students

The governing body will also make sure that the school's uniform supplier arrangements give the highest priority to cost and value for money.

6. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed annually by the governing body.

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

- › Achievement and Behaviour policy
- › Equality information and objectives statement
- › Anti-bullying policy
- › Searching, screening and confiscation policy
- › Complaints policy

You can access our range of our policies [here](#)