Langdon Park School

Professionalism - Inclusion - Pedagogy - Curriculum

Langdon Park School
School Uniform Policy





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Uniform at Langdon Park School

We believe in uniform at Langdon Park School. Good school uniform gives students a sense of belonging, a source of pride and is a sign of respect to the school community. By insisting on high standards of uniform we are preparing students to play a positive role in school, their local community and beyond. This policy sets out our aims and ethos for school uniform, as well as the detail of school uniform and how it should be worn.

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:

- Make sure that our uniform costs the same for all pupils
- While we list items based on sex, we do this to reflect the cultural traditions of the vast majority of our students and families where traditional Muslim attire is the norm. Students are free to wear the uniform they feel most reflects their self-identified gender
- 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 the Head of Year 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 for example, by only asking that the blazer, worn over the jumper, features 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, such as logos that can be ironed on, as long as this doesn't compromise quality and durability
- 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 (year 11 students have a different coloured tie. The school offers to buy these ties back from students at the end of year 11; year 11 prefects are given a silver prefect tie)
- 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
- 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—what should be worn and how it should be worn

4.1 Our school's uniform

Girls' Uniform

Items that are only available from the official uniform supplier:

Blazer with logo	(the girls' blazer has a fitted, more feminine shape and cut) compulsory for all.
Tie	(compulsory)
Official branded V-neck jumper or button front cardigan	(optional)

Items that may be purchased from elsewhere:

White shirt	(compulsory)
Charcoal grey pleated skirt or trousers	(compulsory and skirts to be no more than 2 inches above the knee)
Plain, unpatterned grey/navy/black tights or knee-high socks only if worn with a skirt.	

Girls' Muslim Attire Uniform

Items that are only available from the official uniform supplier:

Blazer with logo	The girls' blazer has a fitted, more feminine shape and cut - compulsory for all.
Navy blue headscarf	
Navy blue Salwar kameez	

Items that may be purchased from elsewhere:

Burka / Jilbab (long ankle length robe or dress)	Worn by those who wish to wear appropriate Muslim attire but would not normally wear a Salwar Kameez. It must be plain navy blue in colour and made of an untextured, unpatterned material. Sleeves must be fitted. Parents are requested to purchase a blazer beforehand and ensure the colour of the material matches the blazer.
An ankle length charcoal grey maxi skirt with shirt and tie may be worn as an alternative to the above.	
Plain, unpatterned grey/navy/black tights or knee-high socks only if worn with a skirt.	

Boys' Uniform

Items that are only available from the official uniform supplier:

Blazer with logo	(compulsory)
Tie	(compulsory)
Official branded V-neck jumper or button front cardigan	(optional)

Items that may be purchased from elsewhere:

White shirt	(compulsory)
Charcoal grey pleated skirt or trousers	(compulsory)
Grey or black socks	

Shoes and belts (boys and girls)

Plain black school shoes (not boots or trainers/no patterns, colours or obvious logos)

No designer/trainer brand footwear of any kind is allowed.

Plain black belts without oversized buckles or logos only.

Make-up and jewellery

Students are advised that one small stud earring in each ear is permissible. A single nose stud is also permitted.

No other jewellery is permitted.

No heavy make-up or eye lash extensions.

No nail polish or nail extensions.

Bags and coats (boys and girls)

School bags must be large enough to contain an A4 ring binder and still close.

In cold weather plain, dark grey/blue/black winter coats may be worn over blazers. A winter coat is one that is lined/quilted and can easily be worn over a blazer. Winter/outdoor clothing must be removed before entering the school's buildings.

No hoodies/denim/leather coats/body warmers/gilets or other styles of jacket are permitted, including cagoules and windbreakers, and only official school jumpers or cardigans may be worn under blazers.

P.E Clothing

Students must wear the LPS PE top (available from the official supplier)

Students must wear the LPS tracksuit bottoms (available from the official supplier) or plain navy/black shorts

Students should wear appropriate footwear for sports e.g. running trainers

When students take part in dance they are allowed to wear leggings

Girls are allowed to wear a headscarf in PE (we recommend a sports headscarf) this must be secured tightly to the head and have no pins to secure it (due to health and safety reasons).

Styles and Fashions

Extremes of fashion are to be avoided. These would include extreme hairstyles or non-natural hair colouring. The school's judgement is final in this area.

No bandanas, hoods, caps or hats at any time.

Items clothing should be worn in a smart conventional manner. Top buttons should be fastnened, ties should be worn to the belly button, shirts should be tucked in. Trousers should be worn round the waist and only one pair of trousers should be worn.

Where a fashion or style emerges that is not covered in this policy the school's judgement will be final.

4.2 Where to purchase it

Khalsa Schoolwear
388-390 Bethnal Green Rd, London E2 0AH
Tel: 020 7729 3286

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 their Head of Year 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 Head of Year 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

All staff will closely monitor pupils to make sure they are in correct uniform. Checks will tale place on entry to school and by tutors during tutor time and then throughout the day by all staff. Where students are not in uniform staff will take the following actions:

- Where possible the school will loan a student the missing item of uniform for the day. Students arriving at school with incorrect or missing items of uniform will be directed to the pastoral hub to arrange for a loan. Students will leave a deposit and return the borrowed item at the end of the day.
- Tutors will check uniform and equipment every morning, supplying students with any missing items. Students not in correct uniform, or without the correct equipment, will be recorded and sanctioned.
- Where students change out of uniform items during the course of the day they will be sanctioned. An example of this would be changing into trainers or removing a blazer while still wearing an outdoor jacket.
- Students refusing to comply with uniform expectations will be referred to reset.

The school will give any pupils and families breaching the uniform policy the opportunity to comply, but will follow up 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.

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
- Considers the views of parents and pupils
- 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.

6. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed Yearly by the Headteachers PA. At every review, it will be approved by the full governing board

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

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