



# Winchelsea School

**Guernsey Road  
Poole BH12 4LL**

<b>Uniform Policy</b>			
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## WINCHELSEA SCHOOL UNIFORM POLICY

### Introduction

All pupils at Winchelsea are expected to wear school uniform. It is believed that a school uniform helps to promote a sense of school identity, looks smart, is practical, encourages pupils to take pride in their appearance and makes children feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance as well as being in keeping with a purposeful learning ethos.

Winchelsea School has always considered it highly important that the cost of uniform should not be a barrier to accessing education.

While there are no requirements in place on uniform, the Department for Education (DfE) strongly encourages schools to have a uniform, believing that uniform “can play a valuable role in contributing to the ethos of a school and setting an appropriate tone.” This document seeks to set out clearly this school’s uniform policy.

This document has due regard for the DfE Guidance on School Uniforms:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/school-uniform/school-uniforms>

This guidance has recently been updated and remains non-statutory. It sits along recently introduced statutory guidance on the cost of school uniforms:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/cost-of-school-uniforms/cost-of-school-uniforms>

Our approach has been reviewed in line with this updated guidance although we were in large part already in line with the updated requirements which at their most basic can be summed up as:

- Cost and value for money considerations should be the highest priority.
- Branded items should be kept to a minimum and costs kept as low as possible.

### Uniform Requirements

Our uniform consists of:

#### 1. EYFS, Key Stages 1, 2, 3 and 4

Plain royal blue polo shirt, PE polo shirt, hoodie, sweatshirt, cardigan or fleece all bearing the blue school logo. These items can be purchased directly from the schools supplier Brigade at [www.brigade.uk.com](http://www.brigade.uk.com) from the **WINCHELSEA SCHOOL, BH12 4LL** area of the website. Non-uniform hoodies are no longer allowed following the introduction of a school branded hoodie.

#### 2. Whole School Uniform

- Full, plain black appropriate footwear
- Plain black/grey skirts, trousers or tailored shorts.

- Girls, blue and white Gingham dresses can be worn during Summer.
- Plain grey/navy/black/white socks.

### 3. Physical Education Kit

A clearly named PE Bag containing:

Plimsolls or trainers (without black soles), one of the range of three PE shirts (Blue logo T-shirt or one of the two available polo shirts) and plain black/blue shorts (not tight fitting lycra), plain spare socks, blue/black tracksuit for colder weather.

PE kit should be worn on the days pupils have PE.

### 4. Swimming Kit

A clearly named waterproof Swimming Bag containing a swimming hat and named towel and the following items:

**Costumes:** We ask that boys wear swimming trunks which should not come below the knee and that girls wear a plain, appropriate, one piece swimming costume.

**Goggles:** Goggles will only be allowed if chemicals in the water may adversely affect your child's eyes. Goggles should be made of unbreakable plastic or rubber materials and children should be taught to use them correctly and safely prior to their attendance at the pool.

### 5. Forest School

A clearly named bag containing a full change of clothes, ideally:

- waterproof boots or wellingtons and warm socks + spare socks
- a hooded waterproof jacket + over-trousers *or* an all-in-one
- warm (ideally waterproof) gloves and a warm hat
- several thin layers of warm clothing
- robust outer trousers and, if possible, thermal long johns (leggings, slim-fit pyjama bottoms or tracksuit bottoms will do the same job)

***Pupils WILL get wet and muddy, so new or expensive items should not be worn.***

### 6. Post-16

Plain black polo shirt with a black jumper or zip-up hoody (exclusive to Post 16) bearing the purple school logo. These items can be purchased directly from the schools supplier Brigade at [www.brigade.uk.com](http://www.brigade.uk.com) from the **WINCHELSEA POST 16, BH12 4LL** area of the website.

Pupils are encouraged to wear comfortable yet school appropriate lower attire, also in black where possible. This may include black school trousers, black jeans or plain sports attire.

For specific activities pupils will either be encouraged to attend school in the necessary clothing (as for PE, following Winchelsea PE kit) or change while at school (e.g. waterproof trousers or a thicker jumper for Forest Schools).

## **7. Satellite Provision**

Pupils attending our satellite provision are expected to wear the same uniform as worn in the host school. Details of the relevant suppliers can be found on the school's website.

Pupils attending our Satellite classes wear the same uniform as the uniform worn at their host mainstream schools (**Note: Winchelsea PE tops being an exception ONLY FOR PE**)

### **Old Town First School and Canford Heath Junior School**

Uniform required to be worn at Old Town First School and Canford Heath Junior School (CHJS) can be purchased from PMG Schoolwear online at [www.pmg-schoolwear.co.uk](http://www.pmg-schoolwear.co.uk) or from the PMG Schoolwear shop located at 85 High Street, Poole, BH15 1AH. Uniform for CHJS can also from School Trends online [www.schooltrends.co.uk](http://www.schooltrends.co.uk).

### **Kinson Academy and Magna Academy**

Uniform for pupils at Kinson Academy and Magna Academy Satellite classes can be purchased online from Brigade, [www.brigade.uk.com](http://www.brigade.uk.com).

Further information regarding school uniform required to be worn at our Satellite classes can be obtained from the main school office.

**All pieces of uniform should be clearly labelled with the child's name.**

## **Equality**

It is considered that these requirements enable the school to meet its obligations under the Equality Act 2010 not to discriminate unlawfully. The cost of girls' uniforms do not compare unfavourably with the cost of boys' uniforms.

## **Uniform Availability**

Branded uniform can be purchased from Brigade at [www.brigade.uk.com](http://www.brigade.uk.com). The requirement for branded uniform as set out in this policy is kept to a minimum having due regard for our obligation to give the highest priority to the consideration of cost and value for money for parents as set out in the DfE Guidance on School Uniforms. All other items of clothing can be sourced by parents from an appropriate supermarket or other good value retailer.

## **Jewellery and Make-Up**

Pupils with pierced ears may wear a single stud-earring or a pair of stud-earrings to school. For safety reasons, children must not wear rings or other forms of jewellery to school, the only exceptions being a wristwatch and a chain or cross worn underneath the uniform.

Children must not wear make-up or nail polish.

## **Haircuts**

The school does not permit children to have extreme haircuts.

Long hair is to be tied back.

Hair accessories such as hairbands, should be discreet and black, white, navy or grey in colour.

## **The Role of Parents**

We ask all parents to support the school uniform policy. We believe that parents have a duty to send their children correctly dressed and ready for learning. One of the responsibilities of parents is to ensure that their child has the correct uniform, and that it is clean and in good repair.

## **What if a Pupil does not wear a Uniform?**

The Headteacher will decide what is to be done if a pupil's appearance is judged to be inappropriate. If any pupil arrives at school dressed inappropriately, they will either be asked to change what they are wearing, be given a shared-use uniform to wear for the rest of day or in exceptional circumstances sent home.

The Headteacher is responsible for enforcing the school's uniform policy and has the full support of the school's Governing Body.

## **School Uniform Policy and the Role of the Governing Body**

If any parent would like the school to modify the uniform policy, they should first speak to the Headteacher. The school welcomes children from all backgrounds and faith communities. If there are serious reasons, for example on religious grounds, why parents want their child to wear clothes that differ from the school uniform, the school will look sympathetically at such requests acknowledging with due regard for the provisions of the Human Rights Act 1998 and the Equality Act 2010 that all pupils have the right to manifest a religion or belief, but not necessarily at all times, in all places or in a particular manner.

The Governing Body will work with the Headteacher to ensure that the policy is implemented fairly and with sensitivity having full regard for all relevant regulations concerning equal opportunities and to ensure that all relevant cost considerations are addressed.

## **Cost and Supplier Considerations**

Winchelsea Governing Body has always determined it contrary to its ethos to seek to make a profit on the supply of school uniform and continues to take this stance.

Sole supplier arrangements are not precluded by the new guidance but there is an expectation that schools will retender every 5 years to ensure value for money is still being achieved.

The school undertook a tendering exercise in June 2021 and appointed Brigade Clothing, who were comparable on cost and reliability ground to the school's then existing suppliers, Envista Branding. The change of supplier also freed up administration time by moving to an online parental ordering system incorporating direct payments. Parents therefore receive items at cost and the school does not receive any commission from this process which might inflate their costs.

## **Uniform Bank**

Historically, Local Authorities would make a school uniform grant available to parents struggling with the cost of such items. As this assistance was non-statutory, most Local Authorities have long since ceased to provide this support.

The Governing Body has always been prepared to consider and be supportive towards hardship requests from parents. More recently in light of the increasing costs facing families, the school has set up a Uniform Bank which is looked after by the school's Family Support Officer. The uniform bank consists of uniform held in stock from the previous supplier plus second-hand uniform donated by parents as well as certain new items of clothing funded by the Friends of Winchelsea School to ensure that the Uniform Bank can meet a broad range of requests. Requests will be made to the Family Support Officer by parents or by teaching staff and will always be handled sensitively. Items are available for a nominal donation. The intention is to ensure that the uniform is used rather than sitting idly on a shelf. It is also intended to promote the uniform bank at school events to reinforce our wish to support our parents.