



School Uniform Policy

STATUS: STATUTORY

Review Cycle: Every three years

Governors/ School Committee Responsible: Education

Date of Last Review: 20/5/2025

Date of Next Review: Summer 2026 and then every 3 years

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 age, sex, disability, race, religion or belief, pregnancy and maternity, 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 a way that is appropriate for school and makes them feel most comfortable
- Allow pupils to wear headscarves and/or other religious garments
- Allow pupils with sensory or physical needs to make reasonable adaptations to their uniform depending on their specific needs
- Allow for reasonable adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking pupils or their parents/carers to get in touch with the Deputy Head (Education) who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests. These will be considered on a case-by-case basis

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 (DfE) on the cost of school uniform.

We understand that items with distinctive characteristics (such as branded items, or items that need 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/carers' 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 and limiting any items with distinctive characteristics where possible (we are aware of forthcoming changes to legislation in relation to school uniform and will be updating our policy to reduce the number of branded or distinctive items in time for September 2026)
- 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 leveller

- Having a reversible sports top that can signal differences in groups for interschool competitions
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for most extra-curricular activities.
- Making sure that arrangements are in place for parents to acquire second-hand uniform items through the regular sales at school organised by the Tiffin Parents' Association and advertised on our website and theirs as well as through parent communications.
- Avoiding frequent changes to uniform specifications and minimising the financial impact on parents/carers of any changes
- Consulting with parents/carers and pupils on any proposed significant changes to the uniform policy and carefully considering any complaints about the policy
- Subsidising for Pupil Premium students

4. Expectations for school uniform

4.1 Our school's uniform

A full list of our uniform, sports kit and stationery requirements is available on our school website [here](#).

4.2 Where to purchase it

Some uniform items are unique to Tiffin and can only be purchased from Stevensons:

Their shop address is:

1-15 Heath Road, Twickenham, Middlesex, TW1 4DB

Email: twickenhambranch@stevensons.co.uk

Phone: 020 8892 2201

www.stevensons.co.uk

Some are compulsory others are optional (e.g. house ties). Many items (e.g. white shirts and charcoal trousers) can be bought from Stevensons or other high street retailers.

In addition, the Tiffin Parents' Association's Trading Post arranges regular 'nearly new' uniform sales details of which can be found [here](#).

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 the Deputy Head (Pastoral) 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/carers are also expected to contact the Deputy Head (Pastoral) 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/carers 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/carers to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.

5.3 Staff

Staff will closely monitor pupils to make sure they are in the 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 in line with 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.

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/carers 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 every three years by the Deputy Head (Education). At every review, it will be approved by the Education Committee.

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

- Behaviour and Pupil Discipline Policy (including Anti-Bullying Approach)
- Equality Statement and Objectives
- School Complaints Policy