



**Wood Ley Community
Primary School**

School Uniform Policy

2026–2027

Policy Owner	Headteacher
Approved By	Full Governing Body
Effective From	September 2026
Review Cycle	Annual
Next Review Date	September 2027

1. Aims

Wood Ley Community Primary School encourages pupils to wear school uniform because it supports a sense of belonging, identity and pride in our school community. Our uniform is intended to be practical, comfortable, inclusive and affordable.

This policy aims to:

- set out clear and consistent expectations for school uniform and PE kit;
- ensure uniform requirements are affordable and do not create unnecessary financial barriers for families;
- ensure pupils can participate fully in school life without being disadvantaged by the cost of uniform;
- promote equality, inclusion, safety and practicality; and
- explain how the school will respond sensitively and proportionately where uniform expectations are not met.

2. Legislation and guidance

This policy has regard to the Department for Education (DfE) statutory guidance on the cost of school uniforms and the current DfE guidance on developing school uniform policy.

From 1 September 2026, schools must comply with the legal limit on compulsory branded school uniform and PE kit items under the Education Act 1996, as amended by the Children's Wellbeing and Schools Act 2026. Primary schools must not require more than three compulsory branded items.

Wood Ley does not require pupils to purchase any branded or logo-bearing item. Optional logo items are available for families who wish to purchase them, but equivalent plain items are permitted.

The Governing Body will also have regard to its duties under the Equality Act 2010, including the need to avoid unlawful discrimination and to make reasonable adjustments for disabled pupils where required.

3. Responsibilities

3.1 Governing Body

The Governing Body is responsible for approving the school's uniform policy and ensuring that it:

- has regard to statutory guidance on the cost of school uniform;
- complies with the legal limit on compulsory branded items;
- gives high priority to affordability and value for money;
- takes account of equality, inclusion, religion or belief, disability and other relevant considerations; and
- is published and communicated clearly to current and prospective families.

3.2 Headteacher

The Headteacher is responsible for the day-to-day implementation of this policy and will:

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- ensure expectations are communicated clearly and applied fairly and proportionately;
- consider requests for reasonable adjustments or variations to uniform requirements;
- ensure financial or practical difficulties are handled sensitively;
- ensure uniform concerns do not create an unnecessary barrier to attendance; and
- keep the practical operation of the policy under review.

3.3 Staff

Staff will promote the school's uniform expectations consistently and sensitively. Where a pupil is not wearing the expected uniform, staff will avoid embarrassing the pupil and will seek to understand whether there is a practical, financial, medical, SEND, religious or other reason.

3.4 Parents and carers

Parents and carers are asked to support the school's uniform expectations and to contact the school if they are experiencing difficulty obtaining suitable uniform or if their child requires an adjustment.

4. Wood Ley school uniform

The following items form Wood Ley's school uniform. Families may purchase suitable generic items from any retailer. Pupils are not required to wear items carrying the Wood Ley logo.

- Grey trousers, shorts, skirt, pinafore dress or culottes.
- White polo shirt.
- Navy sweatshirt or cardigan.
- Navy gingham dress (small check) may be worn in warmer weather.
- Plain dark socks, white socks, or navy/grey tights.
- Sensible black shoes or black trainers (no logos) suitable for school.

Optional Wood Ley logo items, including sweatshirts/cardigans, fleeces and polo shirts, may be purchased by families who wish to do so. A plain equivalent in the appropriate school colour is equally acceptable.

5. PE kit

The expected PE kit is:

- Plain white top.
- Navy shorts.
- Black plimsolls or black trainers suitable for the activity.

No branded or school-logo PE item is required. PE clothing should be practical, comfortable, safe and suitable for the activity. Where an individual pupil needs an adjustment for medical, SEND, religious or other equality-related reasons, the school will consider this sensitively.

6. Branded and optional items

Wood Ley does not have any compulsory branded uniform or PE kit items. This means families can purchase all required uniform from a retailer of their choice.

Optional branded items may be made available, but pupils will not be disadvantaged or treated differently because they wear an equivalent unbranded item. The school will keep optional branded items to a minimum and will consider cost, quality, durability and value for money when reviewing supply arrangements.

Book bags, PE bags, water bottles or other school-branded accessories may be available to purchase, but they are not compulsory unless the school expressly states otherwise in a future approved revision of this policy.

7. Affordability and support for families

Affordability is a central consideration in Wood Ley's uniform arrangements. No pupil should be prevented from attending school or participating in school activities because their family is experiencing difficulty obtaining the expected uniform or PE kit.

To keep costs as low as reasonably possible:

- all compulsory items can be purchased as generic items from a range of retailers;
- no school-logo item is compulsory;
- families are not required to purchase items from a particular uniform supplier;
- the school will avoid unnecessary changes to uniform requirements;
- families experiencing difficulty are encouraged to contact the school confidentially so that appropriate support can be considered; and
- the school will maintain access to good-quality second-hand uniform.

8. Second-hand uniform

Good-quality second-hand uniform is available through the school. This is available to all families and is not means-tested. Families can contact the school office for information about current availability.

The school will publish clear information on its website about how parents and carers can access second-hand uniform and will encourage the donation and reuse of suitable items.

9. Footwear, hair and jewellery

9.1 Footwear

Pupils should wear sensible black shoes or black trainers that are safe and suitable for school. Where appropriate, easy-fastening footwear such as Velcro may support pupils' independence.

9.2 Hair

Long hair should be tied back where this is necessary for safety, including during PE, sport and practical activities. The school will apply expectations about hair in a fair and inclusive way and will not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, disability or another protected characteristic.

9.3 Jewellery

For safety and practicality, jewellery should be kept to a minimum. A watch may be worn, but smartwatches are not permitted. Stud or small stud-style earrings may be worn. Jewellery may need to be removed for PE, sport or other activities where it presents a safety risk, in accordance with the school's safety arrangements.

10. Naming clothing and lost property

Parents and carers are encouraged to clearly mark clothing and personal items with their child's name so that lost items can be returned more easily. Naming or labelling clothing is recommended but is not a requirement of the school uniform.

Lost property arrangements will be communicated to families. Unclaimed items may periodically be recycled, donated or added to the school's second-hand uniform provision after reasonable opportunities have been given for collection.

11. Equality, SEND, medical needs and religion or belief

The school will consider individual circumstances and will make reasonable adjustments for disabled pupils where required by the Equality Act 2010. Adjustments may also be appropriate because of a pupil's SEND, sensory needs, medical condition or other individual need.

The school will respect reasonable requirements arising from religion or belief and will consider requests for variations to the uniform in consultation with families. Any restriction will be justified by a legitimate school aim, such as safety, and will be applied proportionately.

Uniform expectations will be gender-inclusive. Pupils may choose from the permitted uniform items rather than being restricted to separate 'boys' or 'girls' uniform lists.

12. Non-compliance with uniform expectations

Where a pupil is not wearing the expected uniform, staff will respond sensitively and proportionately. The school will seek to understand whether there is a practical, financial, SEND, medical, religious or other reason and will work with the family to resolve any difficulty.

A pupil will not be prevented from attending school solely because a family is experiencing difficulty obtaining the correct uniform. Where appropriate, the school may offer temporary flexibility, access to second-hand items or other reasonable support.

Where there is persistent or deliberate non-compliance and no reasonable explanation, the school may address the matter in accordance with its Behaviour Policy. Any response will be fair, proportionate and take account of the pupil's individual circumstances.

13. Attendance

The school recognises that difficulties with uniform, including access to clean uniform or PE kit, can affect attendance and wellbeing. Staff will seek to identify and address barriers rather than allowing uniform difficulties to result in avoidable absence.

14. Consultation and changes to uniform

The Governing Body will consider the views of pupils and parents/carers when making significant changes to the school's uniform policy. Changes will be planned with affordability in mind and, wherever possible, sufficient notice will be given so that families can continue to use existing uniform before purchasing replacement items.

15. Complaints

Questions or concerns about the operation of this policy should normally be raised with the Headteacher in the first instance. Formal complaints will be considered under the school's published Complaints Policy.

16. Monitoring and review

The Headteacher and Governing Body will keep the policy under review, including its affordability, equality impact, accessibility, second-hand provision and consistency with current legislation and DfE guidance.

The policy will be reviewed annually and sooner if legislation, statutory guidance or the school's uniform arrangements change.

17. Related policies

- Behaviour Policy
- Attendance Policy
- Equality Information and Objectives
- Accessibility Plan
- SEND Policy
- Health and Safety Policy
- Complaints Policy