



SCHOOL UNIFORM POLICY

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UCC Governor Approval Committee	FGB
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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

1. 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 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 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 their child's Progress Leader who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests

2. 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
- 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
- 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

4.1 Our school's uniform

- **College Blazer (Compulsory)**
- **College Tie (Compulsory for all Y7 students entering UCC from September 2023)**
- **College Jumper (Optional)** – navy blue, v neck with UCC logo (Y11 can wear a burgundy v neck UCC jumper, which is optional)
- **Trousers** – generic black school trousers – traditional worsted type (no denim, cord or cotton, no outer pockets)
- **Skirt** – black, UCC school skirt only (no logo).
- **Shirts** – generic white cotton or poly cotton with collar
- **Black belt** – optional, simple plain buckle
- **Socks** – plain black or grey
- **Shoes/Boots** - sensible black with black laces (no trainers except for sport)

NB - All optional and generic items can be purchased widely, including from second hand retailers.

NB – Ties are to be compulsory items worn by all students who join UCC in Y7 from September 2023 onwards. For students who joined the school before September 2023, the current arrangements will be retained (students wearing a skirt have the tie as an optional item).

4.2 Physical Education Uniform

- **UCC Logo T shirt (compulsory) (*)**
- **UCC Logo Mid-Layer Zip Top (compulsory) (*)**
- **Socks** – either short white socks or navy football socks (*)

Minimum of one compulsory item from the list below (none of which are branded):

- **Shorts** – navy blue with sky panel (*)
- **Skort** - navy blue with sky panel (*)
- **Leggings** - navy blue (*)
- **Pro Track Pants** - navy blue with sky panel (*)
- **Shin pads / Gum Shields** (must be worn for some sports)
- **Footwear** – football/hockey boots suitable for field and Astroturf use (moulded studs or blades) trainers for indoor use (with light or non marking soles).

4.3 General

- **Jewellery** - Jewellery – maximum of 2 simple studs per ear. No other forms of earrings are permitted. . No other body piercing. No other jewellery is permitted for security and safety reasons except for one ring per hand, at owner's own risk. (Jewellery removed for PE).
- **Hair** - no extremes of fashion including length, colour, bleaching, stripes. (Tied back when appropriate).
- **Makeup** - A small amount of subtle make up is permitted.
- **Nails** - acrylic nails are not permitted.
- **Vests** - T shirts worn under shirts should not be visible. Polo necks should not be worn.
- **Coats** - plain and smart, no large logos or fashion "trimmings". Designed for outdoor (waterproof) use. "Hoodies" are not to be worn. Coats can be worn to school but must be removed before entering form rooms at the start of the day. Coats should always be removed before entering a classroom for learning.
- **Blazers**- must be worn at all times during the school day. Staff will allow students to remove blazers in hot conditions and when required for practical work.
- **Hoodies** - should be removed before the start of the school day, and must not be worn until the end of the school day.
- **Students will be issued with a 'Consequence' if they do not meet the UCC Expectations regarding uniform and this may result in a detention during the school day.**

Uniform Stockists: Kids & More
9 Crown Walk
Oakham
Phone: 01572 771775
Email: Sallyanne67@live.co.uk

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 Progress Leader 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 their child's Progress Leader 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

Staff will closely monitor pupils to make sure they are in correct uniform.

UCC issues each student with a Uniform Card at the start of each half term, which they are expected to keep in their blazer. The Uniform Card is part of the school rewards system. Students receive a mark on their uniform card each time they do not meet the uniform expectations. This is also recorded as a Behaviour Point on SIMS. If a student reaches the end of half term with one or fewer marks on their Uniform Card they receive 10 House Points and are entered into a prize draw.

Ongoing breaches of our uniform policy will be dealt with by Progress Leaders.

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 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 3 years, or sooner if governors/leaders believe it is necessary. At every review, it will be approved by the Full Governing Body.

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

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