



# **Hove Park School Uniform Policy**

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Jane Griffiths		Ian Jones	
		FGB	

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## Introduction and Purpose

At Hove Park School, *Together We Achieve* underpins everything we do. We believe that a school is more than a place of learning; it is a community where young people feel a sense of belonging, pride and shared purpose.

Our school uniform supports this by promoting equality, reducing visible differences, and reinforcing the collective identity that enables students to thrive academically, socially and personally. Whether students are learning in the classroom, competing on the sports field or taking part in an Enrichment activity, our uniform reflects our commitment to a whole education where high expectations, inclusion and readiness to learn are central. This policy sets out clear, fair and inclusive expectations for school uniform, ensuring that it supports achievement, wellbeing and participation for all pupils, irrespective of background or need.

## **1. Aims**

This policy aims to:

- **Set out our approach to school uniform** in a way that ensures items are of reasonable cost, represent good value for money, and do not place unnecessary financial pressure on parents and carers. We are committed to keeping compulsory branded items to a minimum and enabling families to source appropriate uniform from a range of suppliers where possible.
- **Explain how we will meet our legal duties under the Equality Act 2010**, ensuring that our uniform requirements do not discriminate against students on the basis of protected characteristics. Reasonable adjustments will be made for students with disabilities, medical needs, sensory differences, religious or cultural requirements, or other individual circumstances, so that uniform is never a barrier to learning, wellbeing or attendance.
- **Clarify our expectations for school uniform**, supporting a consistent and shared understanding across the school community. Clear expectations help promote a sense of belonging, pride and readiness to learn, while ensuring that standards are applied fairly, consistently and with compassion.

## **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, sexual orientation, 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 their child's Year Team or SEND Team 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**

Hove Park School recognises that the cost of school uniform can present a significant challenge for some families. We serve a diverse community and we are committed to ensuring that our uniform requirements do not create unnecessary barriers to attendance, participation or achievement.

In developing and reviewing this policy, we take account of:

- pupil demographics, including disadvantaged pupils and those with SEND
- the uniform requirements of neighbouring local schools
- feedback and views from parents, carers and pupils

We have a statutory duty to ensure that our school uniform is affordable, in line with Department for Education (DfE) guidance on the cost of school uniform. We recognise that items with distinctive characteristics—such as branded items or those requiring a specific logo, colour or design—can restrict families' ability to shop around and may increase costs.

We are therefore committed to ensuring that our uniform:

- is available at a reasonable cost
- offers best value for money for parents and carers
- acts as a social leveller rather than a barrier

We do this by:

- **Reducing the number of compulsory branded items** wherever possible, and keeping these to a minimum that supports school identity without creating unnecessary expense
- **Limiting branded items to low-cost and durable items**, such as ties, or items that are worn across multiple years
- **Allowing non-branded alternatives** of the correct colour and style where appropriate, enabling families to purchase items from a range of retailers
- **Avoiding specific requirements for items commonly worn outside of school**, such as coats, bags and shoes
- **Keeping optional branded items to a minimum**, so that uniform promotes equality and belonging rather than distinction
- **Avoiding different uniform requirements across year groups or activities.**
- **Ensuring access to second-hand uniform**, including opportunities for families to purchase pre-loved items at a reduced cost
- **Avoiding frequent changes to uniform specifications**, and giving families clear notice of any necessary changes to minimise financial impact

We have worked closely with parents and carers in developing this most recent update to the uniform policy, and their views have informed the changes made. We remain committed to ongoing consultation with parents, carers and pupils on any future significant changes to uniform expectations. Feedback is actively sought and

carefully considered, and any concerns or complaints relating to uniform affordability are addressed sensitively, respectfully and constructively.

Families experiencing financial difficulty are encouraged to contact the school in confidence, so that appropriate support can be explored. Our aim is to ensure that every student can wear their uniform with pride and comfort, without cost becoming a barrier to belonging or achievement.

## **4. Expectations for school uniform**

### **4.1 Our School's Uniform**

The table below sets out the required and optional uniform items for Hove Park School by year group. Where items are described as *non-branded*, these may be purchased from any retailer, provided they meet the colour and style requirements. This approach supports affordability, accessibility and inclusion.

#### Core Uniform Requirements

Category	Item	Year 7–8	Year 9–11	Notes / Source
Blazer	Hove Park School blazer	Compulsory	Optional	<p>Compulsory in Years 7 &amp; 8 and optional in Years 9, 10 &amp; 11. Available from: <a href="https://khalsaschoolwear.co.uk/school/hove-park-school/">https://khalsaschoolwear.co.uk/school/hove-park-school/</a></p> 
Jumper or Cardigan	Hove Park School jumper or cardigan	Optional	Optional	<p>Available from: <a href="https://khalsaschoolwear.co.uk/product/unisex-jumper-2/?aw_school=30998">https://khalsaschoolwear.co.uk/product/unisex-jumper-2/?aw_school=30998</a></p> <p>**Only this jumper is allowed during lessons**</p> 

Shirt	White shirt (non-branded)	Required	Required	Plain white shirt or blouse. No logos or patterns. Long or short sleeve 
Tie	Hove Park School tie	Compulsory	Compulsory	Compulsory across all year groups. Available from: <a href="https://khalsaschoolwear.co.uk/product/tie-4/?aw_school=30998">https://khalsaschoolwear.co.uk/product/tie-4/?aw_school=30998</a> 
Bottom options	Plain black tailored trousers (non-branded)	Required	Required	No logos, jeans or chinos. 
	Plain black <u>pleated</u> <u>school</u> skirt (non-branded)			Appropriate school length and fit. Must be pleated. 

	Plain Black School shorts  (non- branded)			Plain black tailored school shorts. 
Tights & socks	Socks / tights	Required	Required	Black or white socks. Black or skin coloured tights.
Shoes	Plain all-black shoes	Required	Required	Trainers can be worn but have no patterns, stripes or markings. Low heel permitted.

Any item described as plain must have no logos, patterns, stripes or decorative detailing.

#### Items Not Permitted

The following items are not permitted as they do not meet the expectations of a smart, consistent school uniform and are not suitable for a formal learning environment:

- Black jeans or chinos
- Hoodies
- Tracksuit tops
- Tracksuit trousers
- Combat trousers
- Leggings

Reasonable adjustments may be made where required under the Equality Act 2010 to ensure uniform does not become a barrier to wellbeing, attendance or learning. Reasonable adjustments are set out in Section 10 of our SEND Policy.

#### **Coats, Jackets, Bags and Outerwear**

- Coats and jackets should be appropriate for school and suitable for prevailing weather conditions.
- Coats may be worn in corridors and outdoor areas but should be removed during lessons and assemblies unless a reasonable adjustment has been agreed.

- There is no requirement for coats, bags or outdoor clothing to be branded.

## **Religious Observance**

Items of clothing that are worn as part of a students' religious observance are permitted, but we ask that parents and carers try to accommodate the style and ethos of the school.

## **Jewellery and Hairstyles**

- Jewellery should be minimal and safe for the school environment.
- Hairstyles should be appropriate for a school setting.
- Expectations are applied flexibly to ensure no discrimination on the basis of protected characteristics, including religion, disability, gender identity or cultural background.

## **General appearance**

Students must at all times wear their uniform in a smart presentable manner; shirts, ties and skirts must be worn appropriately and outdoor coats must be removed on entering the building.

## **Seasonal Adjustments**

### **Valley Campus – Warm Weather**

During periods of extreme warm weather, the Headteacher or Campus Leads may issue formal notice to students, parents and carers confirming that blazers may be left at home. This will be communicated via email.

Unless such notice has been given, Valley Campus students are expected to have their blazer available throughout the year.

### **Cold Weather**

In cold weather, students should wear school uniform in classrooms as normal, including the school jumper and/or blazer. Students may wear discreet, lightweight or neutral-coloured base layers underneath their uniform for additional warmth.

Coats or non-uniform items should not be worn in lessons or assemblies. Permission for such items will be granted only on the rarest of occasions and where there is a clear, agreed reason.

## **4.2 PE Kit**

### **Compulsory Items**

- EITHER leggings or shorts with logo or plain unbranded navy shorts/plain unbranded black leggings
- EITHER rugby top or mid layer
- Supportive trainers not canvas
- Plain navy unbranded or HPS t-shirt

- Football socks with logo or plain navy - unbranded
- Gum shield (for contact rugby only)

All items can be bought from Logo Schoolwear - <https://www.logo-schoolwear.co.uk/>

### Optional Items

- Football boots are desirable but can be borrowed from the school if necessary
- Athletics vest
- Skort
- Base layers
- Plain navy tracksuit bottoms
- Shin pads strongly advised for football
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### 4.3 Where to Purchase Uniform

We aim to ensure that school uniform is accessible, affordable and straightforward to purchase. Wherever possible, families may choose where to buy non-branded items, provided they meet the requirements set out in Section 4.1.

#### Branded Uniform Items

Hove Park School's branded uniform items are supplied by **Khalsa Schoolwear Ltd.**

- **School blazer**  
Compulsory for Years 7–8 and optional for Years 9–11  
Available from:  
<https://khalsaschoolwear.co.uk/school/hove-park-school/>
- **School jumper**  
Compulsory for Years 9–11 and optional for Years 7–8  
Available from:  
[https://khalsaschoolwear.co.uk/product/unisex-jumper-2/?aw\\_school=30998](https://khalsaschoolwear.co.uk/product/unisex-jumper-2/?aw_school=30998)
- **School tie**  
Compulsory for all year groups  
Available from:  
[https://khalsaschoolwear.co.uk/product/tie-4/?aw\\_school=30998](https://khalsaschoolwear.co.uk/product/tie-4/?aw_school=30998)
- **School shorts (optional bottom choice)**  
Available from Khalsa Schoolwear

Families are encouraged to purchase only those branded items that are compulsory for their child's year group.

#### Non-Branded Uniform Items

All non-branded items may be purchased from any retailer, including high-street and online stores, provided they meet the colour and style expectations outlined in this policy.

The links below are provided **as examples only** and are not compulsory:

Examples of acceptable trousers:

[https://www.marksandspencer.com/senior-boys-super-skinny-trousers/p/clp60450634?color=BLACK#intid=pid\\_pg1pip34g4r2c1%7Cprodflag\\_Online%20Only](https://www.marksandspencer.com/senior-boys-super-skinny-trousers/p/clp60450634?color=BLACK#intid=pid_pg1pip34g4r2c1%7Cprodflag_Online%20Only)

[2pk Boys' Easy Dressing School Trousers \(3-18 Yrs\) | M&S | M&S](#)

[https://www.marksandspencer.com/girls-regular-leg-stretch-trousers-2-18-yrs-p/clp60650492?color=BLACK#intid=pid\\_pg1pip48g4r2c2%7Cprodflag\\_Online%20Only%7Cprodflag\\_plp\\_ts\\_QPH\\_15](https://www.marksandspencer.com/girls-regular-leg-stretch-trousers-2-18-yrs-p/clp60650492?color=BLACK#intid=pid_pg1pip48g4r2c2%7Cprodflag_Online%20Only%7Cprodflag_plp_ts_QPH_15)

Examples of acceptable Skirts:

[Stitched Down Pleated Skirt – Khalsa Schoolwear](#)

[Girls' Easy Dressing Pull On School Skirt \(2-16 Yrs\) | M&S | M&S](#)

[https://www.marksandspencer.com/senior-girls-short-pencil-skirt/p/clp60103648#intid=pid\\_pg1pip27g4r2c2%7Cprodflag\\_Online%20Only](https://www.marksandspencer.com/senior-girls-short-pencil-skirt/p/clp60103648#intid=pid_pg1pip27g4r2c2%7Cprodflag_Online%20Only)

[Black Permanent Pleat Girls School Skirt 2 Pack | School | George at ASDA](#)

Shorts: [Uniform Shorts – Khalsa Schoolwear](#)

[Black Adjustable Waist Skinny Leg Stretch Boys Shorts 2 Pack | School | George at ASDA](#)

[Buy Black School Shorts \(3-16yrs\) from the Next UK online shop](#)

Examples of acceptable school shoes:

[Kids' Triple Riptape Leather School Shoes \(2½ Large - 9 Large\) | M&S | M&S](#)

[Kids' Patent Leather School Shoes \(3 Large - 5½ Large\) | Clarks | M&S](#)

## Second-Hand Uniform

To support affordability and sustainability, second-hand uniform is available to families.

- The school supports **second-hand uniform sales and exchanges**, which are advertised through school communications
- Families are encouraged to donate good-quality uniform items that are no longer needed
- Where available, local uniform exchange schemes or community initiatives may also be signposted to families

Families experiencing financial difficulty are encouraged to contact the school confidentially so that support options can be explored. Our aim is that no student is prevented from meeting uniform expectations due to cost.

#### **4.4 Uniform Adaptation**

At Hove Park, we want all students to share in the sense of belonging and community that wearing our uniform with pride enables. We recognise that for some students, particularly those with sensory processing differences, certain uniform items can present a barrier to learning and wellbeing.

We encourage families to explore adaptive uniform options—such as velcro-fastened shirts, pull-on trousers, or softer fabrics—before requesting a formal change to the uniform policy. These adaptations often allow students to remain in uniform while feeling more comfortable and regulated.

However, we understand that for some students, even adapted uniform items may not be suitable. In these cases, requests for uniform adjustments can be made to the SEND Team. These will be considered on a case-by-case basis, in consultation with the Headteacher and with reference to professional advice where appropriate.

Occasionally, we may ask families to provide supporting evidence (e.g. from a medical or educational professional) to help us understand why a particular item cannot be worn. Our aim is always to ensure that all learners feel comfortable, confident, and ready to learn—without compromising their sense of identity or inclusion.

All adapted items must be in the corresponding uniform colour.

### **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

Parents/carers are also expected to contact the individual 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

### 5.3 Staff

Staff will closely monitor pupils to make sure they are in correct uniform. They will give any pupils and families breaching the uniform policy the opportunity to comply, but will follow up with the relevant Year Team if the situation doesn't improve.

Ongoing breaches of our uniform policy will be dealt with by the Year Team and Campus Leads in accordance with our 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
- Considers the views of parents/carers and pupils
- Offers a uniform that is appropriate, practical and safe for all pupils

Governors 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 **annually** by the **Headteacher**, in consultation with the Senior Leadership Team and relevant staff. At each review point, the policy will be presented to and approved by the **Full Governing Body**.

The Governing Body monitors and reviews the school uniform policy through its committee work by:

- seeking the views of parents and carers to ensure the policy is supported and reflects the needs of the school community;
- considering, in partnership with the Headteacher, any requests from parents or carers for individual pupils to receive reasonable adjustments or special dispensation in relation to school uniform;
- requiring the Headteacher to report to governors on how the policy is implemented, including consistency, inclusion and any emerging issues.

This school uniform policy has been approved by the Board of Governors following consultation with students, parents, carers and staff. In the event of any ambiguity in interpretation or application, the final decision rests with the Headteacher.

## **7. Links to other policies**

This policy is linked to our:

- Behaviour policy
- Equalities policy
- Anti-bullying policy
- Complaints policy
- SEND Policy