

# The Chalfonts Community College

# School Uniform & Learning Kit Policy

2024-2025

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### Contents

1.	Aims	. 3
2.	Our school's legal duties under the Equality Act 2010	. 3
3.	Limiting the cost of school uniform	. 3
4.	Expectations for school uniform	. 4
5.	Expectations for our school community	. 5
6.	Learning Kit	. 7
7.	Links to other policies	. 7

#### 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 <u>Equality Act 2010</u> 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> These will be considered on a case
- Allow pupils to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons or if they are experiencing discomfort related to their sex, gender or gender reassignment
- 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 Year Leader, 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 <u>guidance</u> from the Department for Education (DfE) on the cost of school uniform.

We understand that items with distinctive characteristics 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
- Limiting any items with distinctive characteristics where possible
- Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost and/or long-lasting items, such as ties
- Keeping the number of optional branded items to a minimum, so that the school's uniform can act as a social leveller
- Making sure that arrangements are in place for parents/carers to acquire second-hand uniform items
- 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

#### 4. Expectations for school uniform

## 4.1 Our school's uniform Main Uniform

- Branded Blazers and Ties: Compulsory for all and must be worn all year round unless permission is given to remove.
- **Tailored Trousers or the Tartan School Skirt**: Compulsory for all. Students are not permitted to wear leggings/joggers/skinny trousers.
- **Shirt**: A plain white shirt with a collar is compulsory for all (not a polo shirt). This can be short/long-sleeved.
- Blue V-Neck School Branded Jumper: Optional, but must be worn under the blazer.
   The School branded navy PE sweatshirt is only permitted to be worn in PE. No other hoodie/jumper/jacket is permitted.
- **Jewellery:** Students are permitted to wear one pair of studs and a wristwatch. No other jewellery is permitted unless it is for religious reasons.
- **Professional Appearance**: Students must dress professionally. False eyelashes and make-up are not permitted. Hair colour must be natural and no extreme hairstyles are permitted.
- **Nails**: False nails/gel nails/painted nails are not permitted. Nails must be nude and kept short.
- **Shoes:** All shoes must be black leather. Canvas shoes/trainers of any kind are not permitted. No trainer brand is permitted to be worn as school shoes.
- **Bag**: All students are required to bring in a suitable bag that can fit in all of their learning kit, books, PE kit, etc. Small handbags/hipbags are not permitted.
- **Badge**: A coloured badge representing the year group can be purchased on the ParentPay School Shop and must be worn on the left lapel.

• **Winter Coats:** Weather dependent, students are permitted to wear either a plain navy or plain black coat which should be free of any decorative embellishments; such as fur edges, ostentatious belts, etc.

#### **PE Kit**

- All students must wear the school-branded polo shirt. Students can wear the optional branded blue sweatshirt/navy rain jacket.
- Students have the option of wearing the following:
  - I. School-branded joggers or shorts.
  - II. School-branded skort and school-branded leggings. Students can wear school-branded leggings under the branded skort. No other leggings are permitted.
- Navy long sports socks/white sports socks.
- Students must wear suitable trainers.
- Studded football boots may be required for Rugby/Football.
- A Gumshield is recommended for Rugby and Hockey.

#### **Beauty Uniform (GCSE Students)**

• All students must purchase and wear the purple tunic when taking Beauty as a GCSE option. This must only be worn on days when practical sessions occur. This must be worn with the school blazer, black leggings/tights and shoes. No additional uniform is permitted.

#### **Dance Uniform (GCSE Students only)**

• Dance students must wear black leggings, a black T-shirt, and a black jumper. This must only be worn on days when practical sessions occur.

#### 4.2 Where to purchase it

School Days Direct is our external supplier for our school uniform.

Their shop is open throughout the year, from Monday to Saturday:

Monday - Friday: 8:00 am - 5:00 pm

Saturday: 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Address: 20A Buckingham Ave, Slough SL1 4QA Website: <a href="https://www.schooldaysdirect.co.uk/">https://www.schooldaysdirect.co.uk/</a> They also offer a click-and-collect service.

Pre-loved uniform is available from the PTA. Please click on this link to place an order (items are subject to availability): <a href="https://chalfont-community-college-pta.sumupstore.com/">https://chalfont-community-college-pta.sumupstore.com/</a>.

#### 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 Year Leader if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to their protected characteristics and/or the cost of the uniform.

#### 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 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 by the Year Leader/Pastoral Link/SLT Link/Vice Principal.

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.

#### 6. Learning Kit

Students are required to have the following learning kit:

- 2x HB Lead pencils
- 1x eraser
- 1x sharpener
- 2x ballpoint pens/biros (black/blue)
- 1x 30cm ruler
- 1x compass
- 1x small glue stick
- 1x scientific calculator suitable up to A Level
- 1x protractor
- 4x highlighters (including green)
- 1x green ballpoint pen/biro
- Mobile Phone Pouch

A student's learning kit will be checked frequently by their form tutor. Detentions will be set for missing learning kit and parents/guardians will be contacted. This can also be viewed on the Arbor Parent App.

#### 7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

- Behaviour for Learning Policy
- Equality Information and Objectives Statement
- Anti-Bullying Policy
- Complaints Policy