

# School uniform policy

Katherine Warrington School



**Approved by:** Resources Committee

**Last reviewed on:** February 2026

**Next review due by:** February 2027

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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
- Ensure compliance with the DFE Cost of School Uniform Statutory Guidance (last reviewed October 2025)
- 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 sex, race, religion or belief, and gender reassignment.

To avoid discrimination, our school will:

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- Avoid listing uniform items based on sex, to give all students 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 students
- Allow all students to have long hair (though we reserve the right to ask for this to be tied back)
- Allow all students to style their hair in the way that is appropriate for school yet makes them feel most comfortable
- Allow students to wear headscarves and other religious or cultural symbols
- Allow for adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking students or their parents to get in touch with the School Business Manager who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests

### 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 on the cost of school uniform.

The school believes that our uniform policy and suppliers should offer value for money and that the cost of uniform should never be a barrier to a child attending the school.

Therefore, the school will make sure our uniform:

- Is available at a reasonable cost from multiple suppliers
- Provides the best value for money for parents/carers and is durable and long lasting.

We will do this by:

- Carefully considering whether any items with distinctive characteristics are necessary
- Limiting the number of items with distinctive characteristics where possible.
- Keeping the number of optional branded items to a minimum, so that the school's uniform can act as a social leveler.

- The school has a system for collecting and storing donated, previously worn, uniform that can be accessed by families who need this, free of charge. Second Hand Uniform sales are also run by our PTA.
- Avoiding frequent changes to uniform specifications and minimising the financial impact on parents of any changes
- Consulting with parents and students on any proposed significant changes to the uniform policy and carefully considering any concerns about the policy
- The school will help families with financial assistance, where appropriate and as needed, when cost is a barrier to their child attending school and meeting our uniform expectations. This can be discussed and agreed on a case by case basis.

#### 4. Expectations for school uniform

Items marked with a \* can only be purchased directly from one of our school suppliers - Beats School Uniform.

All Secondary Schools are required to limit the number of compulsory branded items of Uniform/PE Kit to 4 or fewer (including a Tie).

Our compulsory uniform that all students are expected to have are:

- Branded School Blazer or Branded School Jumper
- KWS Tartan Skirt or KWS Branded School Trousers or KWS Branded School Shorts
- Branded KWS PE Top
- KWS House Tie

Katherine Warrington School - Uniform List			
Requirements	Item	Description	Guidance
<b>Core Uniform for all students</b>	<b>School Blazer*</b>	Black blazer with purple trim to the lapels and embroidered KWS logo to the front left chest pocket. Available in classic or fitted style.	Students must have either a blazer or jumper. A jumper could be worn with the blazer for additional warmth.
	<b>OR</b>		
	<b>Jumper*</b>	Black knitted V Neck jumper with purple and white trim to the neckline and embroidered KWS logo to the front left chest.	Students must have either a blazer or jumper. A jumper could be worn with the blazer for additional warmth.
	<b>Skirt*</b>	Pleated Warrior tartan skirt. Skirts have internal waist adjusters in the waistband which should sit at the natural waistline.	Skirt Length should be at a length no shorter than a student's hand width from their knee.
	<b>Or</b>		
	<b>Trousers*</b>	Grey, with embroidered school logo, school regulation.	Any belts worn should be plain black or grey without branding or large buckles.
	<b>Or</b>		
	<b>Shorts*</b>	Grey, with embroidered school logo,	

		school regulation.	
	<b>Shirt/Blouse</b>	Plain white short or long sleeved, must be worn with a top button done up and a suitable collar for a tie.	A white vest or T-shirt can be worn underneath for warmth, but must not be visible.
	<b>Tie*</b>	Katherine Warington tie in House colour.	A different colour stripe for each House.
	<b>Socks or Tights</b>	Plain Grey/black socks ankle length or trainer style. Black, or flesh-coloured tights.	No white socks. No patterned styles. Plain Black/Grey socks can be worn over tights. Leg-warmers over tights are not acceptable.
	<b>Shoes</b>	Black smart, plain, shoes with enclosed heel and toe; any laces should be black. Heels must be 5cm or less.	Not acceptable - Platform soles, boots, black trainers or trainer style shoes usually with rubber soles, broad laces, made of fabric such as canvas or plimsoles; the shoe should not cover the ankle bone and should not have any prominent logos.
<b>Optional for Students</b>	<b>Religious Items - Head Coverings</b>	Lightweight, plain black fabric.	The reason for wearing the headscarf is to preserve modesty, therefore they should not be showing the students hair or neck line. The headscarf must not be worn with other scarves underneath, headbands, brooches, shadow stripes, logos, diamantes or tassels. This conforms to the health and safety and school requirements.

## PE Kit

KATHERINE WARINGTON – PE KIT LIST			
Requirements	Item	Description	Guidance
<b>Core PE Kit for all students</b>	<b>KWS PE Shirt*</b>	Black polo shirt with purple contrast in wicking material and with the school logo embroidered to the left chest. Available in classic or fitted style.	<p>On days when students are wearing pe kit they should be ready and able to participate fully in sport and activity and then to return to lessons. They may therefore wish to consider wearing sports bras if appropriate, and bringing a spare top and/or wipes or deodorant sprays to freshen up.</p> <p>Plain Black Base Layers may be worn under a KWS Branded PE Shirt for additional warmth if required.</p>
	<b>PE Shorts</b>	Plain Black Shorts suitable for PE.	<p>No "cycling" shorts, hot pants, denim, or cargo-style shorts. No stripes or Large Logos, patterns, or bright-colored piping.</p> <p>Shorts must be mid-thigh length.</p> <p>Branded Shorts are available from Beats School Uniform but are not compulsory.</p>
	<b>White Sports Socks</b>	Supportive plain white ankle or trainer socks.	For all indoor/outdoor sports apart from Football and Rugby.
	<b>Trainers</b>	Sports trainers for indoor or outdoor activities.	White Soled or non-marking. Trainers with <b>a flat sole</b> , such as Converse, Nike Jordan's, and Nike Air Forces, are not allowed for PE lessons as they do not give the best support while doing PE and have little to no grip too.

	<b>Football/Rugby Boots</b>	Compulsory: Students are required to have studded or moulded boots for use on the 3G astro-turf pitch. Please see Appendix 1 for suitable football boots for the astro-turf pitch.	Dimple-soled boots and trainers are not suitable for the astroturf. Please see Appendix 1. The astroturf pitch is used for other sports as part of the PE Curriculum so all students require boots suitable for the astroturf.
	<b>Long Games Socks</b>	Plain black, knee length (football/rugby style), polyester.	No logos or other markings. For Football & Rugby. All students in Year 7-9 will do Football/Rugby as part of the PE Curriculum. Year 10 onwards Football Shin Pads are only required if part of the Squad or for lessons if you have selected Football. If you are unsure please contact your Son/Daughter's PE Teacher directly for clarification.
	<b>Football Shin Pads</b>	Strongly Advised: Should be worn for football lessons and extra-curricular clubs.	All students in Years 7-9 will do Football as part of the PE Curriculum. Year 10 onwards Football Shin Pads are only required if part of the Squad or for lessons if you are in competitive PE teaching groups. If you are unsure please contact your Son/Daughter's PE Teacher directly for clarification. <b><u>Students not wearing shin pads do so at their own risk.</u></b>
	<b>Rugby Gum Shield</b>	Compulsory: Must be worn for rugby lessons and extra-curricular club.	Gum Shields are mandatory and must be worn if playing rugby (Contact or Tag) in both lessons and fixtures. All students will do rugby as part of the PE Curriculum in Years 7-9, or if they select the competitive pathway for taught lessons in Years 10 upwards.
<b>Optional for all students</b>	<b>Rugby Shirt</b>	Optional: Black long-sleeved rugby style shirt with purple contrast and school logo embroidered to the left chest.	Strongly encouraged to be worn by students participating in a KWS Rugby Team.

	<b>Mid-layer Top*</b>	Black fleece-lined 1/4 zip midlayer with embroidered school logo to the left chest.	If a Mid-layer is worn on top of a KWS PE Shirt it must be a KWS Branded Midlayer. Alternatively Plain Black Base Layers may be worn.
	<b>Rain Jacket*</b>	Black waterproof full-zip jacket with purple contrast, fold-away hood and embroidered school logo to the left chest.	
	<b>Base Layer</b>	Plain Black base layers	No visible logos or large markings. To be worn under KWS core PE kit.
	<b>Sport style leggings</b>	Plain black high waisted sports leggings with full leg.	Available from our suppliers although you do not have to purchase these from them. Can be worn as a base layer under shorts or on their own. No cotton or woollen leggings. No large logos or markings.
	<b>Tracksuit Bottoms</b>	Plain black, suitable for PE.	No large logos, stripes or other colours. No sweat bottoms. KWS Branded Waterproof Tracksuit Bottoms are available from Beats School Uniform but are not compulsory.

### Hot Weather

During Periods of Hot Weather the school will permit the removal of the School Tie or allow Students to wear PE Kit - this will be clearly communicated to Students and Parents/Carers during periods where this is permitted.

### Jewellery and non-uniform items

At KWS we believe that uniform helps our students to develop a sense of pride, community and self-esteem. When wearing the School uniform, students are representatives of KWS and must be aware that they carry responsibility for the school's reputation. Students must wear full School uniform when travelling to School, whilst in School, when travelling home from School, when on the majority of School outings, at School activities and at Parents' Evenings.

Students not compliant with the uniform policy will be sent to the Pastoral Office to explain why and may be sent home to change, unless they have a signed letter or email from home explaining the exceptional circumstances. Where the correct clothing or footwear is not worn students will be required to wear the correct uniform on loan from the school for that day e.g.: school plimsolls.

Where non-uniform items (earrings, hoodies, etc) are worn, they may be confiscated and consequences applied.

Not being in full School uniform is also deemed as a breach of the Student Code of Conduct.

The only jewellery permitted at school is a **non-smart** wrist watch and a single pair of plain gold or silver small, stud earrings worn at the bottom of the ear lobes.\*

Jewellery which is not permitted in our uniform guidelines will be confiscated (see confiscation procedures in Appendix 5 of the Behaviour and Conduct Policy) and passed on to the school reception in a named envelope. Non-permitted items will only be returned to parents when they come into the school to collect.

At KWS we aim to be inclusive of all religions and faiths, but must be consistent in terms of what articles of faith are acceptable in school. Any item of jewellery that is directly related to a religious ceremony or tradition can be worn by students. However, if it is being worn simply as an expression of faith or as a fashion status, it must be removed in line with KWS uniform policy.

\* Parents and carers are recommended to use the first week of the summer holidays if they are supporting their child to have additional piercings. This provides a full six weeks, the recommended time to allow piercings to heal. Having additional piercings during the school calendar will require the piercings to be removed each day for school. Tape or clear piercings will not be permitted to support the healing of piercings.

### **Hairstyles**

All of our students have the right to wear their hair in a manner that is natural and culturally significant to them. Head coverings for religious or cultural reasons are welcomed (we ask that these match our school colours of purple or black) Hairstyles that pose a safety hazard or are disruptive to the learning environment are prohibited. Hair must be of natural colour only, and not dyed multiple colours (highlights, streaks etc. are allowed). Hairstyles consisting of shaved patterns and/ or shaved eyebrows are not allowed. Plain, functional and safe hair accessories are allowed: senior staff

can give guidance. Changes in hair fashions are likely to require staff to apply their judgement to ensure appearances are acceptable and reasonable to the school.

### **Make up/nails**

Students wearing 'obvious' make-up, fake eyelashes or nail polish/gel nails will be required to remove it, and the school retains stocks of nail polish and make-up remover. Please note that any refusal to remove any article, e.g. acrylic nails is likely to result in further sanctions.

### **Clarification for non-uniform items:**

- On days when students have a PE lesson, club or P7 body activity they may come to school in the appropriate school PE uniform.

### **4.2 Where to purchase it**

Our logo'd uniform is available from Beats School Uniform.

Beats School Uniform - [https://beatschooluniforms.co.uk/schools/katherine\\_warington\\_school/](https://beatschooluniforms.co.uk/schools/katherine_warington_school/)

## **5. Expectations for our school community**

### **5.1 Students**

Students are expected to wear the correct uniform. The uniform should provide an unbroken line of clothing from the shoulder to mid-thigh at all times 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)

- Students are also expected to contact the School Business Manager if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to their protected characteristics. This will then be discussed with the wider Pastoral Team before agreement to a change.

## 5.2 Parents and carers

Parents and carers are expected to make sure their student 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 the School Business Manager 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 students to make sure they are in the correct uniform. They will give any students 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 our Behaviour Policy.

In cases where it is suspected that financial hardship has resulted in a student not complying with this uniform policy, staff will take a mindful and considerate approach to resolving the situation.

## 5.4 Trustees

The trust 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 students
- Offers a uniform that is appropriate, practical and safe for all students

The board will also make sure that the school's uniform supplier arrangements give the highest priority to cost and value for money, by avoiding single supplier contracts and by re-tendering contracts at least every 5 years.

## 6. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed bi-annually. At every review, it will be approved by the Trust Board. The school also has a Uniform Committee who meet regularly to review the School Uniform Policy. Parents and Students are also surveyed regularly and the survey includes questions regarding the quality and cost of the School Uniform.

## 7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

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



## Appendix 1 - 3G Footwear



# TigerTurf

Appropriate Footwear  
for a TigerTurf 3G Pitch

Use round plastic-studded footwear only  
(no metal studs)



Do not use dimpled or flat soled shoes



Footwear should always be clean and in good condition

[www.tigerturf.com](http://www.tigerturf.com)

[UKinfo@tigerturf.com](mailto:UKinfo@tigerturf.com)

01299 253 966

Second Hand Football Boots are available from One Impossible Thing who help re-house second hand/pre-loved footwear.

<https://www.1impossiblething.com/>