



**Sharples**  
S C H O O L

# Uniform policy

**Last reviewed on:**     **January 2026**

**Next review due:**     **January 2027**

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## **1. Aims**

The aims of this policy are:

- Promoting Dignity: It promotes equality and helps to reduce socio-economic differences among students, creating a sense of unity and promoting individual dignity.
- Building Community: Wearing a uniform helps to foster a sense of belonging and community among students, promoting school spirit and a shared identity.
- Establishing Discipline: A uniform helps to establish discipline and a sense of responsibility in students, preparing them for future experiences in the workplace.
- Representing the School: Wearing a uniform helps to represent the school and its values, promoting a positive image and creating a professional demeanor.
- 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 [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 main 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 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 our Deputy Headteacher, who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests.

### **3. Expectations for school uniform**

Sharples has adopted a uniform as an outward demonstration of the high standards of personal behaviour and commitment we expect of everyone. All pupils should wear it with pride and behave in such a way as to bring honour to the school whilst in uniform.

School uniform is compulsory and must be worn on the way to and from school. Name tags should be attached to all clothes.

We strongly advise that expensive 'designer label' clothing should not be purchased for school. We cannot guarantee the security of expensive clothing or footwear.

All garments and footwear must be plain. No other badges must be worn except the school logo and school marks of achievement.

If a pupil is missing a piece of uniform and cannot give a valid reason as to when it will be replaced, we will issue the piece of uniform and will add the charge for this to your ParentPay account

#### **Uniform List**

<b><u>ITEM</u></b>	<b><u>DESCRIPTION</u></b>
<b><u>Blazer</u></b>	Graphite grey with school badge. Available only from school uniform suppliers.
<b><u>Jumper</u></b>	Purple 'V' neck jumper with school badge. <b>The school jumper is optional.</b>
<b><u>Shirt</u></b>	White with formal collar and top button. Optional sleeve length. Worn tucked in with a buttoned collar at the neck.
<b><u>Tie</u></b>	Standard striped tie with school badge. Provided by school in Year 7. Additional ties available only from school uniform suppliers.
<b><u>Trousers</u></b>	Black, tailored, full length school trousers, which must have a front zip fastening and a waistband. <b>No skinny fit/stretch trousers, jeans style, canvas or cropped trousers.</b>
<b><u>Skirt</u></b>	Standard black, pleated skirt. Skirt length must fall on the knee or no shorter than one inch above the knee (22/24 inch).
<b><u>Lanyard</u></b>	<b>Lanyard</b> - provided by school.
<b><u>Headscarf</u></b>	For students who wear a headscarf - only the school headscarf with the Sharples badge is permitted, these can be purchased from Whittakers Schoolwear, Smart Clothing or directly from school
<b><u>Tights</u></b>	Black opaque tights must be worn by students who choose to wear a skirt. No patterns. Tights and socks should not be worn together. Socks of any type are not permitted with skirts.
<b><u>Socks</u></b>	<b>Socks</b> – students wearing trousers may wear black or white socks. These must be non-branded, plain ankle socks. No trainer socks or embellished socks
<b><u>Shoes</u></b>	<b>Shoes</b> - black polishable leather or simulated leather. Black laces only. No boots, canvas shoes or trainer style shoes, including branded sports brands including (but not limited to) Nike, Adidas, Reebok, Converse and Vans.
<b><u>Coat</u></b>	<b>Coat</b> – plain, dark colour (no denim, leather, quilted shirts or

	hoodies). Coats may not be worn in the school building. <b>Hoodies are not permitted at school at all.</b>
<b><u>School bag</u></b>	All pupils require a school bag for books, equipment etc. Small rucksacks or 'record bags' in black or a neutral colour are acceptable. No large sports bags.
<b><u>Hats</u></b>	A woollen hat is permitted in poor weather for the journey to and from school. No baseball caps.
<b><u>Watch</u></b>	A watch may be worn. This must not be any type of smart watch with Bluetooth communication or web enabled facility.
<b><u>Jewellery</u></b>	<p>If ears are already pierced, only one small, plain gold or silver-coloured stud (no jewels) may be worn in each ear lobe. This is under review during 2025-26 due to ongoing issues with students wearing a wide variety of different earrings.</p> <p>No other body-piercing is allowed, e.g. nose studs, tongue studs or other ear piercings. It is not permitted to wear plasters/clear retainers. All studs should be removed for PE.</p> <p><b>Items of jewellery which are not in line with the policy will be confiscated and returned at the end of the week.</b></p>
<b><u>Make up</u></b>	Make-up, false eyelashes, nail varnish or jewellery <b>must not</b> be worn for school.
<b><u>Hair</u></b>	<p>Long hair should be tied back for practical lessons.</p> <p>Hair should not be outlandish in style or colour and no brightly-dyed or any two tone / multi-tonal hair is permitted.</p> <p>Heads must not be shaved - as a guide, a number two cut is the shortest permitted and there should be no tramlines or patterns shaved into hair. Beaded hair is not permitted.</p>
<b><u>Tattoos</u></b>	No tattoos are allowed.



## Physical Education Kit

All pupils should bring a full PE kit to every PE lesson even if they have a note to be excused from PE for medical reasons, as they can participate in other ways such as coach, official or referee.

All kit is available from school uniform suppliers

Boys	Girls
<p><b>Polo shirt</b> – black and teal with school badge. <b>Shorts</b> – black with school badge <b>OR</b> <b>Tracksuit trousers</b> – black with school badge. <b>Hooded sweatshirt</b> – black and teal, pocket-less with school badge. <b>Waterproof jacket (optional)</b> – black with school badge. <b>Socks</b> – plain black.</p>	<p><b>Polo shirt</b> – black and purple with school badge. <b>Hooded sweatshirt</b> – black and purple, pocket-less with school badge. <b>Socks</b> – plain black. <b>ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:</b> <b>Shorts or 'Skort'</b> (combined skirt/shorts) – black with school badge. <b>OR</b> <b>Gym shorts (optional)</b> – purple with school badge. <b>OR</b> <b>Tracksuit trousers</b> – black with school badge. <b>OR</b> <b>Leggings</b>- plain black leggings with the school logo</p>

### Please note:

Parents should always consult this list or school BEFORE purchasing any item so that costly and unacceptable mistakes can be avoided. **Pupils may be required to return home if improperly dressed or equipped or if deemed to be unsafe.**

Any item purchased in contravention of the uniform code will be required to change. Pupils must always bring their kit to school, even if they have a medical note excusing them from participating. This is because staff will assign other roles during the lesson that they are safely able to participate in such as keeping score. ALL ITEMS SHOULD BE CLEARLY NAMED.

**Uniform grants are available from the Local Authority in certain circumstances. Pupils who come to school without the correct uniform may be sent home to change.**

### **School Uniform Suppliers:**

Whittakers Schoolwear, 106 Deansgate, Bolton BL1 1BD 01204 389485

Smart Clothing, Units 5/6/7, Blackhorse Street, Bolton BL1 1SY 01204 392610

Harrisons Schoolwear, 467A Blackburn Road, Bolton BL1 8NN 01204 307382

### **Sharples Pre-Loved Uniform Shop**

The school runs its own Pre-Loved Uniform shop at all major events for families e.g. Transition Days. If you would like to purchase pre-loved uniform at any time please contact Miss Curzon [s.curzon@sharplesschool.co.uk](mailto:s.curzon@sharplesschool.co.uk)

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

### **4.1 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 for any concerns regarding the uniform policy in relation to their protected characteristics.

### **4.2 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 and Carers are also expected to contact school [office@sharplesschool.co.uk](mailto:office@sharplesschool.co.uk) for any concerns regarding the uniform policy in relation to:

- Their child's protected characteristics
- The cost of the uniform

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.

### **4.3 Staff**

Staff will closely monitor pupils to make sure they are in the correct uniform. Ongoing breaches of our uniform policy will be dealt with by the Pastoral Team in accordance with the Behaviour Policy (Section 7.2). Students who do not comply with the uniform policy will be placed in the inclusion unit until the issue is rectified. In this circumstance, the wellbeing of the pupil will be prioritised, with a clear explanation of why they have been placed in the inclusion unit, and how this can be resolved. The normal school times will apply in this case and pupils will not be subject to the extended times of the inclusion unit.

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.

### **4.4 Trustees**

The Board of Trustees 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 Trustees 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 any relevant contracts at least every 5 years.

## **5. 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
- Providing the school tie to all pupils when they join the Sharples Family
- Avoiding specific requirements for items pupils could wear on non-school days, such as coats 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
- 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 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

## **6. Monitoring arrangements**

This policy will be reviewed annually . At every review, it will be approved by the Trustees.

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

This policy is linked to our: Behaviour Policy, Equality information and objectives, Anti-bullying policy, Complaints policy.