



GEORGE ABBOT SCHOOL

Policy Title:	School Uniform Policy
Author:	Head of Premises
Date of most recent review:	Spring 2022
Date of next review:	Spring 2023
School Mission Statement: Academic excellence within a strong community of equality and respect, where potential and opportunity are realised.	

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

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 gender, 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 are equitable
- 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 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 Kate Carriett, Headteacher

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:

- Limiting compulsory items with distinctive characteristics to ties, blazers, and PE kit.

- Avoiding specific requirements for items pupils could wear on non-school days, such as coats and bags
- Keeping the number of optional branded items to a minimum, so that the school's uniform can act as a social leveler
- 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

Expectations for school uniform

Uniform List
Navy blazer
School tie
White shirt*
Black trousers* (plain black belt with plain buckle*, optional), navy skirt, knee length
House t-shirt specific colour
Navy V-neck pullover (optional), navy cardigan (optional)
Grey, Navy or black socks, plain neutral, black or navy tights*
Black or navy coat*
Black shoes*
PE Kit
PE t-shirt
Navy shorts, navy skirt
Yellow PE socks
Quarter zip top
Navy track pants, navy leggings
Training shoes*
Rugby top (when required, optional)
Football boots* (when required, optional)

Items marked with an asterix (*) can be bought from any suitable clothing shop. All other items should be purchased from the School Shop, as they are bespoke George Abbot items.

Please ensure that students wear uniform in accordance with the uniform list provided. The school sets and expects a very high standard of school uniform. Students should look smart and business like for the school day and feel proud of their membership of the school, signified by their uniform. High standards of appearance are also expected to and from school. A full list of school uniform is detailed overleaf. Particular attention should be given to the following:

- Skirts should be the regulation style and worn with no rolling up of the waistband.
- Trousers should be black and tailored – slim or regular fit, not skinny fit.
- No Jeggings
- Coats should be dark coloured.
- Hoodies and other non-George Abbot jumpers are not allowed.
- Belts worn should be black.
- Shirts must be tucked in, top buttons done up and ties approximately waistband length.
- Shoes should be relatively flat and have toes and backs to them.
- Blazers should be worn at all times. (During hot spells in the summer, this rule may be suspended for a period of time.)

- PE kit and trainers can be worn to school on PE days.
- During Summer term 2, house t-shirts may be worn daily.

Students are allowed to wear one plain gold or silver stud in each ear and nowhere else. Nose studs are not permitted. No other jewellery is permitted except a watch (inexpensive please) and a medic-alert bracelet. Jewellery that students wish to wear for religious purposes will be considered on a case by case basis. Safety guidelines state that these MUST be removed for PE lessons. There can be no exceptions.

Long hair must be tied back for PE and all practical work. Hair slides should be plain and 'scrunchies' black or navy.

Hair should be of a natural colour; extreme hairstyles are not permitted and students may be sent home if styles are extreme. Makeup is not permitted in the Lower School (Years 7, 8 and 9) and if worn in the Upper School (Years 10 and 11), should be discreet.

Where to purchase it

All items of school uniform may be purchased at the onsite school uniform shop which is open by appointment or by emailing using the header GA ORDER. Please email spschoolshops@yahoo.com. Generic items may be purchased from most high street retailers and supermarkets.

Second hand uniform is available to purchase from the PTA. Please check the bulletin for sale dates. For students eligible for Pupil Premium, financial support is available to help with the cost of uniform. Contact office@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk for more information.

Expectations for our school community

Pupils

Students 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).

Students may contact, Kate Carriett, Headteacher if they wish to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to their protected characteristics.

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 Mrs Kate Carriett, Headteacher 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.

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 headteacher if the situation does not improve.

Ongoing breaches of our uniform policy will be dealt with through the [School 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.

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 students

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.

Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed every 2 years. At every review, it will be approved by the Senior Leadership team and the Governing body.

Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

- [Behaviour policy](#)
- [Equality information and objectives statement](#)
- [Anti-bullying policy](#)
- [Complaints policy](#)