Model policy

Make this policy your own!

1. Insert your school name and logo where indicated on the next page
2. Read through the document and make changes as instructed in […] or yellow highlight. Delete the instructions as you go. **Note:** you don't need to edit the contents list directly (see step 4)
3. When you have finalised your document, make a note of step 4 below and then delete this cover page. (Right-click on the blue border above this text and select 'Cut')
4. Refresh the contents list so that the page numbers are correct. (Right-click anywhere on the contents list, click on 'Update field', then select 'Update entire table' and 'OK')
5. Save the document as normal

Important:

All our policies take account of relevant requirements and good practice but are designed for you to adapt to suit your context.

Academies, including free schools: please ensure, where applicable, that your adapted policy meets any relevant conditions in your funding agreement/articles of association, as these can vary.

To keep things simple we use the term **'school'*** as standard to mean the educational establishment that is adopting this policy.

Similarly, we use **'governing board'** and **'governor'*** to mean the accountable body for the school and the representatives on that body.

You are welcome to change these references to suit your context. In all cases you should ensure that roles and responsibilities meet requirements.

**Except in policies that apply only to academies, for example, or when explaining requirements for specific school types*

Approved by Forbes Solicitors

Borrow Wood Primary School
School Uniform Policy

Written by:	Natalie Bartlett	Date: 2nd November 2026
Last reviewed on:		
Next review due by:	November 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 all 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: 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
- Make sure that our uniform costs the same for all pupils
- Allow all pupils to have long hair, although we reserve the right to ask that long hair 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 request changes to swimwear for religious reasons, or if they are experiencing discomfort
- 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 Natalie Bartlett, Head Teacher via admin@borrowwood.odysseyct.org.uk 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 guidance from the Department for Education (DfE) on the cost of school uniforms.

We understand that items with distinctive characteristics (such as branded items, or items that need to have a school logo attached or be in a unique fabric or style) cannot be purchased from a wide range of retailers, and that requiring many such items limits parents/carers' ability to shop around for the best price.

We will therefore make sure our uniform:

- Is available at a reasonable cost
- Provides the best value for money for parents and carers

We will do this by:

- Following the statutory limits for compulsory branded items of uniform and PE kit to a maximum of:
    - 3 or fewer
- Carefully considering whether any items with distinctive characteristics are necessary, and limiting these items where possible for example, by only asking that any jumpers or cardigans are navy blue and do not require a logo.
- Limiting compulsory branded items to low-cost and/or long-lasting items such as ties
- Considering cheaper alternatives to compulsory branded items, such as logos that can be ironed on, as long as this doesn't compromise quality and durability
- Avoiding specific requirements for items such as coats, bags and shoes/trainers that pupils could also wear on non-school days. See more information in section 4.1
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for different year/class/house groups
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities including (but not limited to) sport, music and drama
- Avoiding requiring different branded items for particular times of the year, such as a branded dress in summer and a branded skirt in winter
- Considering alternative methods for signalling differences in groups for interschool competitions, such as creating posters
- Considering alternative approaches, including loaning compulsory branded items such as sports kit for competitions
- Making sure that opportunities to acquire second-hand items in a timely manner are accessible to parents and carers of both current and prospective pupils, and publishing this information on our website
- 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 uniform in line with the school's complaints policy
- Avoiding single-supplier contracts, to make sure generic items can be purchased from a range of retailers
- Continuing to review this policy, to ensure the cost of our uniform is reasonable and provides the best value for money

4. Expectations for school uniform

4.1 Our school's uniform

Borrow Wood Primary School is a uniform wearing school. Our school colours are navy blue. There is no expectation to wear branded items, just that items should be in the school colours.

Branded items that can be purchased include: jumpers, cardigans, PE hoodie, fleece, Year 6 leavers' hoodie and polo shirts. These are all optional.

Generic items should be labelled with your child's name and allow your child to take part in a variety of activities throughout the day i.e. not too tight or too loose.

The list of items for daily use is as below:

- White polo shirt
- Borrow Wood jumper/cardigan or navy-blue jumper/cardigan
- Grey or black trousers/shorts/skirts/pinafores
- Blue and white checked dresses can be worn in the summer
- Black sensible shoes (these can be plain black trainers with black soles)
- In summer, the children can wear sandals with socks - this is to protect their toes.

PE kit can be worn on PE days. The list for PE kit is as below:

- White top (t-shirt or polo)
- Black shorts (these can be cycle shorts but should still reach mid-thigh)
- Black jogging bottoms
- Black leggings
- Black trainers/plimsolls
- Borrow Wood jumper or Borrow Wood hoodie (optional)

For further reference on the above items, please see Appendix One.

- Children are permitted to wear ***one set of small stud earrings*** at school***.*** These should be taken out by the child during PE. Recently pierced ears should be covered with tape during PE lessons until they can be removed.
- Hair should be of a natural colour. Hairstyles should not contain any offensive signs or symbols shaved into them. Long hair should be tied up for PE lessons.
- Children should bring a coat into school, particularly during the winter months. We also allow children to bring in wellies and an outdoor puddle suit or waterproof trousers so they can access the outdoors areas during the winter months.
- If your child is representing the school in a sports team, they may be loaned a specific sport kit. This should be returned to school as soon as possible after the event.

4.2 Where to purchase or acquire it

We have two suppliers currently for our branded school uniform:

- You can order from Uniformality via their website: www.uniformality.co.uk
- Or through Morley's website: www.schoolwearsolutions.com
- You can also purchase plain navy blue items from many local supermarkets.

We have lots of second hand uniform available from school. This is all free of charge and available all year round. Please visit the school office and they will show you where to go.

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 Natalie Bartlett, Head Teacher, 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
- In good condition

Parents/carers are also expected to contact Natalie Bartlett, Head Teacher via admin@borrowwood.odysseyct.org.uk 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/carers are expected to lodge any complaints or objections relating to the school uniform in a timely and reasonable manner in accordance with the school's complaints policy.

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 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 discussing with parents of the child and asking children to change into spare items from the uniform swap shop.

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 and the pupil will not miss classroom teaching because of a sanction. This is in line with the statutory guidance.

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, 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 Head Teacher. At every review, it will be approved by the governing board.

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

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

Uniform

Borrow Wood Primary School is a uniform wearing school. Please ensure that all items of uniform are labelled with your child's name.



Uniform

- White polo shirt
- Borrow Wood jumper/cardigan or navy-blue jumper/cardigan
- Grey or black trousers/shorts/skirts/pinafores
- Blue and white checked dresses can be worn in the summer
- Black sensible shoes (these can be plain black trainers with black soles)
- In summer, the children can wear sandals with socks - this is to protect their toes.

Outdoor Play

At Borrow Wood, we believe that 'there is no such thing as bad weather, just unsuitable clothing'. Please ensure that children have a change of clothes available in school and ideally:



- A pair of wellies
- Outdoor puddle suit or waterproof trousers.

PE

Your child should come to school in their PE kit on their classes PE days.
PE kit:



- White top (t-shirt or polo)
- Black shorts (these can be cycle shorts)
- Black jogging bottoms
- Black leggings
- Black trainers/plimsolls
- Borrow Wood jumper or Borrow Wood hoodie (optional)



All children need to be barefoot for both gymnastics and dance.
Long hair must be tied back for all PE activities.

Jewellery

Children are permitted to wear ***one set of small stud earrings*** at school. These should be taken out by the child during PE. Recently pierced ears should be covered with tape during PE lessons until they can be removed.

Purchasing Borrow Wood School uniform online

We have two suppliers currently for our school uniform.
You can order from Uniformality via their website: www.uniformality.co.uk
Or through Morley's website: www.schoolwearsolutions.com

Uniform pop-up shop

We have lots of second hand uniform available from school. This is all free of charge and available all year round. Please visit the school office and they will show you where to go.