

## Trafalgar Schools' Federation

## School uniform policy

(For the academic year 2024-25 onwards)

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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.
> Explain how we will avoid discrimination in line with our legal duties under the Equality Act 2010.
> Clarify our expectations for school uniform.

## 2. Rationale

This policy was written in consultation with the Federation Governing Body, following a pupil survey that was led by the School Council and an online survey that was open to all parents (both in 2022).
Having a Federation school uniform policy helps us to maintain our Federation identity and promotes a sense of continuity between the two schools. It also provides instant identification while on school trips, promotes health and safety standards and avoids potential issues around fashions and comparisons.

## 3. 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 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 the way that is appropriate for school yet makes them feel most comfortable.
> Allow pupils to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons.
> 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 the school office, 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 uniforms.

We will make sure our uniform:
> Is competitively priced and blends easily with shop bought items.
> Provides the best value for money for parents / carers.
We will do this by:
> Carefully considering whether any items with distinctive characteristics are necessary and limiting them where possible.
> Ensuring uniform with the school logo can be purchased from local retailers - details of which are published in the Useful Information section of both school Parents' Handbooks and on the school websites.
>Considering cheaper alternatives to school-branded items, such as the use of iron-or sew-on logo badges, which are available from our school office.
>Making sure that arrangements are in place for parents to acquire second-hand uniform items - for example, via our PTA organised regular second-hand uniform sales, the dates and times of which are published in our newsletters.
>Avoiding frequent changes to uniform specifications and minimising the financial impact on parents of any changes.
>Consulting with parents and pupils on any proposed significant changes to the uniform policy and carefully considering any complaints about the policy.

## 4. Expectations for school uniform

| REGULAR UNIFORM |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| Sweatshirts \& cardigans | - Trafalgar green V-neck sweatshirt with school logo <br> - Green cardigan with school logo |
| Polo shirts | - White or green, short-sleeve, collared polo-shirt |
| Gingham dresses | - Green and white checked dress in warm weather |
| Trousers, shorts and skirts | - Plain black <br> - Shorts and skirts being an appropriate length |
| Tights and socks | - Plain black tights <br> - Plain black socks <br> - White socks in summer |
| Shoes | - Plain black and flat-soled <br> - No open-toed sandals or trainers |
| PE UNIFORM |  |
| Tops | - Trafalgar green short sleeve sports t-shirt with school logo <br> - Trafalgar green V-neck sweatshirts with school logo or <br> - Trafalgar green hoodies with school logo (in the Juniors only) |
| Shorts and jogging bottoms | - Plain black |
| Footwear | - Black or white trainers |

## ADDITIONAL ITEMS (OPTIONAL)

- Knitted winter hats (green with school ship logo)
- Summer caps
- Rucksacks - small and large
- PE bags


## Hairstyles \& accessories

> Hairstyles should be natural in colour and suitable for a formal learning environment.
> Long hair must be tied back with a simple green, black or neutral hair tie (large 'scrunchies' or similar are not permitted). Hair bands should be green or black.
> Extreme hairstyles are not acceptable (e.g. designs shaved into the hair).
> If your child has pierced ears, small studs are allowed. Strictly no hoops or dangling earrings.
$>$ Watches are permitted in the Juniors only but cannot be usable as a smart device able to access the internet or messages.
$>$ Watches and ear studs must be removed for P.E and games for safety reasons.
> No other jewellery is permitted, including wrist bands, bracelets or necklaces.
> Hats may be worn to protect against the weather. For example, in summer a hat with a brim or peaked front to shield the eye from bright sunshine; in winter, a woolly hat to cover the ears.
> Bags - Infant children should use Trafalgar Book Bags; Junior children may continue to do the same or bring their own bag such as a rucksack.

## 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 the school office 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 are also expected to contact the school office 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 pupils to make sure they are in correct uniform. They will give pupils not following the policy a reminder slip specifying the issue and will follow up with the headteacher if the situation does not improve.

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 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 every 5 years by SLT and governors.

## 7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to the following other policies:
> Positive Behaviour, including anti-bullying
> Inclusion
> Complaints

