



WOLGARSTON HIGH SCHOOL

Staffordshire

School Uniform & Equipment

A Statement of Policy

Author: House Leaders

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Amendments

2025 – Hs and AG

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Summary of changes from 2024-25 policy

- Clarified that Hoodies are a banned item and that they will be confiscated if seen on the school site.
- A Plain black V neck jumper can be worn provided that the student is also wearing a blazer at the same time.
- The jumper must be plain and not have any logo on. The jumper must not be made of a sports or sweatshirt material.
- The following 2 bullet points have been included on page 6.
- Bright spot stickers are not permitted as they are not discrete.
- Clear nose studs are not allowed.

Definition - Uniform – A particular set of clothes that must be worn by members of the same group.

The School Uniform List is reviewed annually and published on the school's website.

www.wolgarston.staffs.sch.uk

The purpose of our uniform guidance is to ensure that:

- Parents/carers purchase the correct item of clothing for their son/daughter. Without accurate guidance, incorrect items may be bought and the need to replace the item leads to further unnecessary costs for a family.
- Teaching staff are not distracted from their primary purpose of teaching. *(A significant irony occurs when a parent purchases the wrong item of uniform thus triggering a phone call from a member of staff which distracts them from teaching. Within that phone call the parent suggests to the member of staff that they should be more concerned with teaching than contacting them to change an item of the uniform!)*

This policy is not exhaustive, where definition or guidance is unclear, the school reserves the right to make a judgement on 'what is reasonable' within the values of promoting a positive image of both students and the school.

Statement

The Wolgarston High School uniform is one of the outward signs by which the local community recognises and makes judgments about the students. It is important for students and the school that the way students present themselves is positive and acceptable and creates the impression of a disciplined and well-ordered establishment. It is expected that all students will come to Wolgarston High School every day in neat, clean uniform, giving a message that they take pride in belonging to the school. The support of parents is vital in meeting this expectation.

Members of staff are expected to support the uniform policy, both in a class setting and around the school. The uniform policy supports the ethos of Wolgarston High School by determining the boundaries of acceptable dress.

Aim and Objectives

- Students should be correctly dressed at all times in school or whenever they are representing the school in the wider community. School uniform identifies students with the school to the wider community.
- School uniform enhances the appearance of our students and helps us create a purposeful atmosphere in school.
- School uniform assists us in our efforts to create a cohesive, corporate identity amongst our students, promoting a sense of pride and belonging to a positive, caring organisation.
- All students are expected to come to school wearing the correct uniform at all times. Unless specified, uniform must also be worn on educational visits, regardless of the time of day.
- Students are also expected to wear uniform when returning to school for evening events, such as parents' evenings, options evenings etc.

Guidelines and Responsibilities

- Changes to the school uniform should be made in consultation with staff, students and our parent community. The responsibility for the decision on change rests with the Local Governing Committee.
- Ultimate responsibility for this policy's introduction and implementation lies with the Headteacher in consultation with the Local Governing Committee. It is important to recognise that all staff, students and parents/carers have an active part to play in the evolution, development and maintenance of this policy.

Procedures

- All staff in school will uphold the school's policy on uniform and will challenge when uniform is not correct.
- **House tutors** will carry out uniform checks at tutor time and will make contact with parents/carers if it is deemed unsatisfactory.
- Subject teachers will ensure students are correctly dressed on arrival and departure from their lessons.
- Students not in full School uniform, **must report to the student reception or tutor before 8.55am, to explain the issue.**
- Students will either borrow correct uniform or arrangements may be made for either the correct items to be brought into School, or permission granted to go home and change. Students may have their social time removed, until they are in full and correct uniform.
- Contact should be made with the school if there is a genuine medical issue, before a student attends in incorrect uniform. Parents should write a note in the planner or/and send a Classcharts message to the tutor to explain the issue. Please note, a medical exemption will be considered, however, they will be asked to wear spare uniform until a point where their own uniform becomes available.
- Parents/carers experiencing financial or other difficulty in providing the full and correct uniform for their child should contact their child's Tutor. They will deal with the matter discreetly and may be able to indicate sources of assistance.
- Unauthorised items should not be worn in school. If they are, the item may be retained in a place of safe keeping until such time as contact with parents/carers can be made to arrange to collect. Unauthorised items would include 'hoodies', gilets or sports jumpers, and any items of jewellery not included in our uniform list.

Commitment

- The school is committed to ensuring that uniform is practical, smart and affordable and the majority of basic uniform items are readily available from a wide variety of retail outlets. Where items are school-branded, the school will select suppliers based on their commitment to quality and value for money.
- A selection of pre-loved uniform items will be available through the school. Please contact office@penkvalley.co.uk for further details.
- Students who are required to wear non-school uniform based on religious, cultural or medical grounds should consult the School first.

- Parents/carers who choose Wolgarston High School for their child are agreeing to accept the policies of the school. We expect support from parents in upholding this policy and in ensuring that their child comes to school correctly dressed each day.

Frequently Asked Questions

What should I do if temporarily I cannot send my son/daughter to school in the correct uniform?

Please inform your child's tutor directly by Classcharts or by writing a note in the planner. The School will make a judgement on whether a temporary uniform pass will be granted. However, in most cases items of uniform can be borrowed so that the student can continue with a normal school day. If we are not provided with a written reason for a uniform issue, we may in conjunction with the school uniform policy send the student home to change, or we may withdraw the student from lessons and social time until we meet with compliance.

In exceptional circumstances a temporary uniform pass to cover a short-term problem may be issued. This will only be issued at the discretion of the House Leaders or members of SLT providing those alternative arrangements do not undermine this policy.

My child informs me that everyone is wearing an incorrect uniform item, such as jean material trousers or leggings. What should I do?

It is very unlikely that this is the case. We carry out full uniform checks on a regular basis to make sure that the uniform policy is being followed. Please encourage your child to do the right thing by wearing the correct uniform at all times.

I am not clear on what footwear is acceptable or not acceptable. Where is this information?

Please see the photos in this policy or contact the School. We are happy to recommend appropriate footwear.

My child has medical insoles and we have been advised by a Podiatrist to buy Nike Airforce which are listed in the not acceptable footwear. Are there any alternatives that you recommend?

Following consultation with medical professionals there are a range of shoes available to support various conditions, that meet the demands of our policy. Under no circumstances should a Nike trainer be worn due to its prominent fashion logo.

Is financial support available to provide a school uniform for my child. What should I do to seek this support?

Support is available for all students in receipt of free school meals. If your child is not currently in receipt of free school meals, please make immediate contact office@penkvalley.co.uk who will discuss ways in which we may be able to help you apply.

Please also contact the school for information about our Pre-loved uniform sales.

Make up, jewellery, hair & nails

All students are required to follow all parts of the uniform policy. Failure to comply may result in a loss of social time.

- **Jewellery** –A maximum of two studs per ear, is permitted. No other jewellery is allowed. **These must be removed for all PE lessons. The wearing of hooped earrings, other piercings, bracelets, rings or necklaces is not allowed. Clear nose studs are not allowed.**
- **Make up, if worn, should be discreet and close to a natural appearance.** Excessive make-up or fake tan will need to be removed. Bright spot stickers are not permitted as they are not discrete.
- **False Eyelashes** –Students who arrive with unnatural lashes/eyelash extensions will need to remove/alter these items so that there is a natural appearance.
- **Nails** - Must be short in length, and if painted should be a natural or pastel colour. When looking at the palms of hands very little nail should be seen above the fingertips. Excessive nail length will need to be trimmed or filed down within an agreed timeframe.
- **Body Piercings** - No form of facial or body piercings may be worn including plastic retainers.
- **Wristwatch** - Students are allowed to wear a wristwatch. Smartwatches are not permitted. **All watches must be removed for exams which is a requirement from the exam boards.**
- **Airpods / Headphones** – Students are not allowed to wear these items.
- **Confiscated items** - Students who are found to be wearing items of jewellery/watches/headphones/hoodies/gilets that are not allowed will need to hand these items in to the school office. These items will need to be collected by parents who will be notified by Classcharts.
- Extreme hairstyles such as unnatural colour or shaved heads are not permitted. All hair longer than collar length must be tied back for health and safety reasons in the appropriate lessons such as Science and PE. Around School hair should not cover the face and obstruct a student's vision. All hair should be of a natural tone with no extreme colours permitted. Students will need to be collected in order to rectify any non-compliance regarding hair. If this is not possible, a student may have their social time removed until their hair meets the requirements.
- If, for religious or cultural reasons a pupil has to wear a head covering then this must be dark in colour.

Uniform Supplier

In order to assist parents and students in complying with the school's uniform policy, we have identified the following recommended supplier who we feel represent quality and value for money:

- Crested School Wear, 67 High Green, Cannock WS11 1BN Tel: 01543 504866
- Crested School Wear, 35-36 Gaolgate St, Stafford ST16 2NT Tel: 01785 748481

Badged blazers can also be purchased from the following website:

<https://www.crestedschoolwear.co.uk/product-category/schools/v-z/wolgarston-high-school/>

During July and August House ties and badges are available from school at a cost of:

- House Tie £6.00
- Badge for blazer £4.00

Wolgarston High School Pre-loved uniform sales. Please contact office@penkvalley.co.uk for further details of the items that are on offer through this service. Please see further information on page 13 of this policy.

Parents are free to buy from other outlets, provided the items comply with those available from our recommended supplier. The school reserves the right to reject non-specification items of uniform. For this reason, we recommend that school uniform suppliers are used, rather than fashion clothing outlets.

Uniform for Years 9 to 11

- Black blazer (black coloured lining) with school crest (sleeves rolled down.) Students must have their Blazers with them at all times. Students must not wear a jacket/coat instead of their blazer. These items will be confiscated if the blazer rules are not adhered to.
 - Hot weather – The Leadership team may change the rule of blazer wearing during periods of hot weather. This is a decision that will be made by staff and not by students or parents.
 - A plain black V neck jumper can be worn as addition to the school blazer. No logos are allowed on the jumper. The jumper must not be made of a sports type material.
- House tie - The Tie must be of an appropriate length (waistline) and must display the school crest under the knot.
- Plain white shirt with collar, either short or long sleeved, which must always be tucked into the waistband. The collar top button must fasten and be suitable to take a tie.
 - Students are expected to have their shirt tucked in at all times in and around the school buildings. Repeated failure to meet this standard will result in sanctions being applied (loss of social time)
- Plain black tailored long school trousers, to finish at the ankle. These items must not be rolled up.
 - Leggings, treggings or jeans are not permitted. Students arriving in incorrect uniform will not attend lessons or have social time until they are wearing the correct uniform.
 - Plain black socks to be worn with trousers
- Skirts if worn should be plain black and tailored to knee length, suit material not elastane / stretchy.
 - No jersey skirts (e.g. tube skirt) are permitted and skirts **must not** be rolled up.
 - The skirt is an optional item. If the skirt worn by a student does not meet the uniform requirements, the student will have the option withdrawn and they must then wear trousers for their uniform.
 - Thick black tights to be worn with skirts.
- Plain black discreet belt (no large or fashion buckles are permitted)
- Sensible, plain, black leather or PVC leather school shoes with a small heel (max height 3cm). They must be plain black shoes and if they have laces, they must be black
 - NO trainers, trainer style shoes, pumps, sandals or boots.
 - Please see pages 10 – 11 for more guidance on school shoes.
- Plain coats are recommended but are not compulsory. No inappropriate logos will be permitted. Coats may be worn with a blazer, but not to replace a blazer.
 - Outdoor coats may be worn for the journey to and from school but must be removed when students are in classrooms. Hoods on coats must not be up unless the weather is poor. Hoods must not be up inside the school buildings.
 - No 'hoodies', gilets or sports jumpers are permitted.

Uniform for all Years



If a skirt is worn it must reach down to the knee and not be stretchy material. Thick black tights must be worn

Knee length skirts only

No Stretch or Lycra skirts

No socks with a skirt

School shirts must be kept tucked in at all times.

Ties must show the school badge under the knot and reach the top of the trousers or skirt

Trousers must reach the ankle and not be stretchy or jersey material.

Trousers that look like leggings - **will not be permitted.**

Black socks must be worn.



No cropped trousers

Black socks only



Acceptable footwear styles for all years

Boys Clarks



Girls Clarks



Boys M&S



Girls M&S



Boys Next



Girls Next



Boys Asda



Girls Asda



Non-Acceptable footwear styles for all years



Trainer style shoes are not permitted.

These include shoes that are flat soled, have lots of eyelets & a rounded toe

PE Kit for all Years

All Wolgarston PE kit is also supplied by Crested School Wear.

Core PE: (Compulsory)

Please note – All students will need to be wearing PE kit in all lessons. If students are not able to practically participate in their PE lesson, they must still bring their PE kit.

Girls	Boys
Wolgarston Burgundy PE Shirt	Wolgarston Burgundy PE Shirt
Plain Black Football Style Shorts (small logo) or Plain Black Full-Length Sports Leggings (not tights) Black Wolgarston Mid Layer Jumper (not compulsory but advised for colder weather, other hoodies or jumpers will not be permitted)	Plain Black Football Style Shorts (small logo) or Plain Black Tracksuit Bottoms Black Wolgarston Mid Layer Jumper (not compulsory but advised for colder weather, other hoodies or jumpers will not be permitted)
Black Football Socks	Black Football Socks
Shin Pads	Shin Pads
Swimming Costume/ Towel	Swimming Shorts to fall above the knee/ Towel
Astro Turf trainers - these can be used on the 3G football pitch and in all other facilities. <i>*Please note that metal studs will not be permitted on the 3G pitch.</i>	



Core PE
Plain black football style shorts with a small logo



Core PE
Wolgarston Black Mid-layer (not compulsory but advised)



Core PE
Plain black full-length leggings with a small logo



Core PE
Wolgarston Burgundy PE Shirt



Core PE
Plain black tracksuit bottoms with a small logo

Other acceptable items:

- Black base layer top, short or long sleeved, worn under the PE shirt (not shown here)
- Sports Trainers (not high-tops or converse)

Footwear for all facilities including 3G Pitch (Artificial Turf Trainers)



Also Permitted on 3G Pitch (Plastic studs only)



Not Permitted on 3G Pitch (General trainer or metal studs)



Pre-loved Uniform

In November 2021 the Government launched new rules to drive down the cost of school uniform. As part of this initiative schools were asked to offer an option for parents to purchase pre-loved uniform. This is both for financial and for sustainable and environmental reasons.

Background:

This uniform shop was set up by the Year 12 Business Studies class. The students have set up a small enterprise of selling preloved uniform to lower school students at a more affordable price, making the expensive move between schools easier on families and providing an alternative to buying brand new.

Intent:

The preloved uniform shop offers affordable, second-hand uniform to all students in this school. Students who feel they've outgrown their uniform, or current Year 11's who will no longer need it, are asked to donate any of the following items to the shop: Blazers, shirts, ties, trousers, school shoes and PE kit.

How it works:

Students/parents can donate by leaving any uniform they no longer need, or uniform that no longer fits them, in the uniform collection points at the front of school either, in visitor reception, or outside the lecture theatre.

These items will then be cleaned and steamed in house. Prices of uniform will vary depending on the quality of the uniform, however the pre-loved team will do their absolute best as a team to make sure all uniform is of a good standard.

Current stock can be seen on the school social media pages. If you have any further questions, please contact the school via telephone: 01785 788400

Or by email: office@wolgarston.staffs.sch.uk

Preloved uniform can be purchased by cash at visitors' reception.

Profits will be used in the following ways. Donations for the school Link for Life charity, Purchasing essential cleaning items, Initiatives to further improve the pre loved uniform sales service.



Equipment

Equipment for School and Lessons

Every student is expected to provide the following basic items of equipment each day, and for every lesson: We expect all students to be ready for learning each and every day.

- A School Bag
- School Planner (Students will be provided with this item in September). There will be a charge of £4 if this item needs to be replaced.
- Reading book
- Pencil Case
- Black pens
- Green pens
- Pencils
- Ruler
- Rubber
- Highlighters
- Glue stick
- Scientific Calculator (An essential item for all students). The Maths department recommend the Casio fx – 83GT CW as shown above.



Students may also find it useful to have their own spares of the above as well as highlighters and a glue stick, although these are not essential items.

Equipment for Exams

Being 100% ready is essential when doing the best that you can in exams. At Wolgarston we encourage all students to be ready and prepared for all Assessments, Mocks and Formal Exams. Failure to be prepared for exams can lead to a delay or inconvenience.

We expect all students to be ready for each and every exam.

Every student is expected to have the following for each of their exams: A Clear Pencil Case

- Black pens
- Pencils
- Ruler
- Rubber
- A Pair of Compasses
- Angle Measurer
- Scientific Calculator
- Highlighter