



# ROWHILL SCHOOL

## Uniform policy

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### Responsibilities

Status	Statutory
Review cycle	Every two years
Key school staff member & role	Geoff Bartrum - Headteacher
Policy written / reviewed	May 2025
Ratified by the governing body	May 2025
Next review due	May 2027

### Version control details

Version number	Date of version	Details of updates, changes or review
1.0	May 2025	New policy
1.1	July 2025	Updated PE kit section



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### 1. Mission Statement

That all students should aspire to be:

- successful learners
- confident individuals
- responsible citizens
- and effective contributors

### 2. Vision Statement

As a specialist school that supports pupils with a range of complex special educational needs (SEN), we endeavour to employ a highly-skilled, flexible workforce who will provide support which intends to meet the aspirations of our mission statement, working closely with a range of stakeholders and partners to enhance student outcomes.

### 3. Ethos and Values

The school aims to be positive, innovative and demanding with high expectations while balanced with high levels of support for each pupil's well-being. The values we believe are needed to attain this ethos include:

- teamwork, partnership and support to ensure the best possible learning environment is created
- personal responsibility and leadership to ensure everyone understands their roles within the school and feels a sense of belonging and achievement
- innovation, creativity and change to ensure that the school remains at the cutting edge of teaching and learning and behavioural development
- resilient, optimistic and positive to ensure all pupils learn to cope with success and failure, to develop self-esteem
- challenge, opportunity and recognition to ensure all possible avenues for development are investigated and achievement rewarded
- honesty, trust and compassion to ensure we become an emotionally intelligent community capable of understanding the feelings of others



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### 4. Aims

This policy aims to:

- Specify the school's approach to requiring a uniform that is of reasonable cost and offers the best value for money for all parents and carers
- Explain how the school will avoid discrimination in line with our legal duties under the Equality Act 2010
- Clarify the school's expectations for school uniform

### 5. 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 request all hair 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 speak to Mr Geoff Bartrum, Headteacher who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests

### 6. Limiting the cost of school uniform

Rowhill school has a duty to make sure that the uniform required 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/carers' ability to purchase at a low price. We will make sure our uniform is available at a reasonable cost and provides the best value for money for parents/carers.



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We will achieve this by:

- Carefully considering whether any items with distinctive characteristics are necessary
- Limiting any items with distinctive characteristics where possible. Rowhill School offer sweatshirts, PE t-shirts and fleeces with the school logo to purchase, but these are not compulsory
- 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
- Consulting with parents and pupils on any proposed significant changes to the uniform policy and carefully considering any feedback or complaints related to the policy

### **7. Expectations for school uniform**

For all pupils at Rowhill School, the wearing of uniform is encouraged and appropriate clothing is compulsory. Uniform is an important part of a school's identity and fosters a sense of belonging.

It reinforces who we are as a community and helps allow students to feel pride in their school. It also helps prepare students for life after school where many will have to dress appropriately for their chosen profession.

Pupils with physical/sensory needs may require flexible clothing designs. In cases where a student is unable to wear the full school uniform, we kindly ask you to ensure they still arrive in as much of the uniform as possible.

For those without the proper attire, we will offer spare clean items for the day to ensure every student participates fully in school activities without inconvenience.

#### ***Rowhill School uniform list***

##### *Day-to-day uniform*

- White or blue shirt/polo shirt (with or without school logo)
- Blue jumpers/sweatshirts (with or without school logo) or a dark coloured jumper/sweatshirt (without school logo)
- Grey/black trousers/shorts or skirts
- Blue check dresses (optional for summer)



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### *Footwear*

- Navy/grey/black coloured tights
- Navy/grey/black/white coloured socks
- Flat black shoes/trainers
- Crocs and sliders are not permitted due to the health and safety risks they pose

### *P.E. Kit*

- A plain black, blue or white t-shirt
- Black, blue or white sports shorts
- Suitable trainers appropriate for physical activity
- Football boots (as needed)
- Black or blue tracksuit for colder weather

### *Swimming*

- Swimwear, any colour
- Towel and waterproof bag

PLEASE NOTE that parents/carers are to ensure that every item of uniform is clearly marked with their child's full name.

### *Branded Items – Optional*

Rowhill School offer jumpers, t-shirts, fleeces and hats which have the Rowhill School Logo available to purchase from the school office. These are not compulsory items.

### *Jewellery*

Jewellery must not be worn except watches. Ear studs are the only item of pierced jewellery that are permitted and must be removed/coloured and given to the teacher during physical education, games or swimming lessons as a safety precaution.

## **8. Where to purchase**

Parents and carers can obtain uniform items without the school logo from high-street retailers. School uniforms, including sweatshirts and polo shirts, are available for purchase directly through the school office, with second-hand options offered to ensure affordability.



### 9. Expectations for our school community

#### 9.1 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 during offsite educational visits that are organised by the school, or where they are representing the school (if required)

Pupils are also expected to speak with Mr Bartrum, Headteacher, if they wish to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to their protected characteristics.

#### 9.2 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 class teacher if they wish 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/carers to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.



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### 9.3 Governors

The Governing Body 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 pupils and parents
- Offers a uniform that is appropriate, practical and safe for all pupils

The Governing Body 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 five years.

### 10. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed every two years.

### 11. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to the school's following policies:

- Positive Behaviour Support policy
- Equal opportunities policy
- Anti-Bullying Policy
- Complaints Policy

**- END OF POLICY -**