

# Lincoln Carlton Academy

## School uniform policy

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|----------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| <b>Approved by:</b>        | <b>Amy Melhuish</b> | <b>Date:22.06.2026</b> |
| <b>Last reviewed on:</b>   | June 2026           |                        |
| <b>Next review due by:</b> | June 2027           |                        |

## 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 Amy Melhuish (Headteacher), 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:

- Not insisting that any item is branded with the Lincoln Carlton Academy logo. Children are permitted to wear plain versions of all uniform items.
- 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

- 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

On non-PE days:

- Plain grey trousers, shorts, skirts and pinafore dresses.
- Navy-blue gingham dresses
- Plain navy-blue polo shirt (with or without a school logo)
- Plain navy-blue sweatshirt or cardigan (with or without a school logo)
- Plain black shoes or boots (no heels or open toes)
- Grey or black socks or tights
- One pair of single stud earrings
- A wristwatch (smart watches not permitted)
- Discrete, navy hair accessories
- A warm, waterproof coat
- Sunhat

On PE days:

- Plain navy-blue joggers or shorts (no sports branding permitted)
- Plain purple or navy-blue crew neck T-shirt (no sports branding permitted)
- Plain navy-blue hoodie or zip through top (no sports branding permitted)
- Dark coloured trainers.
- Grey or black socks
- A warm, waterproof coat
- Sunhat

### 4.2 Where to purchase or acquire it

Items that have the Lincoln Carlton Academy logo can be purchased from:

Myclothing [www.myclothing.com](http://www.myclothing.com)

Uniform Direct [www.unifrom-direct.com](http://www.unifrom-direct.com)

Plain items can be purchased readily from supermarkets and high street retailers.

We regularly hold sales of second-hand uniform items for parents and carers to purchase. These are advertised in advance via email and social media platforms and on the parent notice board outside school.

## 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)

### 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 the 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/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.

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. This is in line with the statutory [guidance](#).

### 6. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed annually by Amy Melhuish (Headteacher).

### 7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

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