



GEORGE ABBOT SCHOOL

Policy Title:	School Uniform Policy
Author:	Head of Premises
Date of most recent review:	September 2023
Date of next review: <i>Uniform supplier details will be updated as necessary</i>	September 2024
School Mission Statement: Academic excellence within a strong community of equality and respect, where potential and opportunity are realised.	

This policy aims to:

- Set out our approach to requiring a uniform that is of reasonable cost and offers the best value 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

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 gender, 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 are equitable
- 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 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 Kate Carriett, Headteacher

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 uniform. This guidance recognises that owing to existing contracts with suppliers, this process of increasing affordability may need to be implemented in line with contractual terms ceasing. For George Abbot, this resulted in a phasing out of branded items over a period of time. However, parents are not expected to change uniform in-year; changes will only need to be implemented at the point that a uniform item needs replacing owing to size or condition.

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' ability to 'shop around' for a low price.

We have ensured that our uniform:

- Is available at a reasonable cost

- Provides the best value for money for parents/carers – best value has been assessed through both price point and quality (durability)

Our phased increases in affordability include:

- Limiting compulsory items with distinctive characteristics or specific branding to ties, blazers, and some elements of PE kit.
- Avoiding specific requirements for items pupils could wear on non-school days, such as coats and bags
- Making sure that arrangements are in place for parents to easily acquire good quality second-hand uniform items
- Avoiding frequent/time bonded changes to uniform specifications and minimising the financial impact on parents of any changes

Expectations for school uniform

Uniform List: Branded items	
Navy blazer	Branded – no change
School tie	Branded – no change
House t-shirt specific colour	Branded – no change
Uniform List: Non-branded items	
White Shirt	Can be purchased at any supplier
Black trousers: plain black Belt with plain buckle, (optional)	Can be purchased at any supplier
Navy pleated skirt (please see Valentino’s website for an example of the style needed)	Can be purchased at any supplier
Plain navy V-neck pullover or plain navy cardigan (both optional, no brand logos to be visible)	Can be purchased at any supplier
Black shoes (not trainers)	Can be purchased at any supplier
PE Kit: Branded items	
PE t-shirt	Branded – no change
Quarter zip top	Branded – no change
Navy track pants	Branded – no change
PE Kit: Non-branded items	
Plain navy leggings (no brand logos to be visible)	Can be purchased from any supplier
Plain navy shorts or plain navy skort Shorts must be loose fitting, no lycra and no brand logos to be visible. (Please see Valentino’s website for an example of the style needed)	Can be purchased from any supplier
Trainers	Can be purchased at any supplier
Football boots (when required, optional)	Can be purchased from any supplier
Yellow PE socks (only needed if playing for school team or for when wearing shin pads)	Can be purchased from any supplier

Please ensure that students wear uniform in accordance with the uniform list provided. The school sets and expects a very high standard of school uniform. Students should look smart and business like for the school day and feel proud of their membership of the school, signified by their uniform. High standards of appearance are also expected to and from school. Particular attention should be given to the following:

- Skirts should be pleated and worn with no rolling up of the waistband.
- Trousers should be black and tailored – slim or regular fit, not skinny fit.
- No Jeggings.
- All non-branded items should be plain in colour and any (non-George Abbot) branding or logos should not be visible.
- Hoodies and other non-v-neck jumpers are not allowed.
- Shirts must be tucked in, top buttons done up and ties approximately waistband length.
- Shoes should be relatively flat and have toes and backs to them.
- Black trainers are not acceptable for school uniform.
- Blazers should be worn at all times. (During hot spells in the summer, this rule may be suspended for a period of time).
- PE kit and trainers can be worn to school on core PE days.
- During the second half of the summer term, house t-shirts may be worn daily.
- Students are allowed to wear one plain gold or silver stud in each ear. Nose studs are not permitted.
- No other jewellery is permitted except a watch (inexpensive please). Jewellery that students wish to wear for religious purposes will be considered on a case by case basis. Safety guidelines state that these MUST be removed for PE lessons. There can be no exceptions.
- Long hair must be tied back for PE and all practical work. Hair accessories should be plain and workplace appropriate.

Where to purchase it

All items of branded school uniform may be purchased from “Valentino Schoolwear” either in store or on-line. Generic items may be purchased from most high street retailers and supermarkets. Valentino also offer generic items.

Contact details

Address: 23-29 Broadway, Knaphill, Woking, Surrey, GU21 2DR

Telephone: 01483 475051

Opening Hours: Monday – Saturday: 9:00am-5.00pm

www.valentinoschoolwear.com

A large and good quality second hand uniform supply is available from the school. Second hand uniform sales will continue to take place at school throughout the year.

Parents can email office@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk if they need second hand uniform outside of the sale periods.

Pupil Premium

For further information about pupil premium eligibility please see:

<https://www.georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk/pupil-premium/>, selecting the "Apply to see if your child is eligible" icon (the application form covers both free school meals and pupil premium).

Contact office@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk if you have any questions about your eligibility.

Students in receipt of pupil premium receive the following uniform, free of charge:

- 1 pack of two shirts or blouses
- 1 skirt or 1 pair of trousers

- 1 tie
- 1 blazer
- 1 PE kit (PE t-shirt, quarter zip top, track pants or leggings, navy shorts or skort)

PLUS, an annual uniform top-up of up to £50 per student

The above uniform should be sourced from Valentino, who will charge the cost of the above items directly to the school.

Expectations for our school community

Pupils

Students 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).

Students may contact, Kate Carriett, Headteacher if they wish to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to their protected characteristics.

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 may contact Mrs Kate Carriett, Headteacher if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy for their child 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 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.

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 does not improve. During the current period of phased uniform changes, the focus will be on addressing non-uniform items such as trainers, hoodies, nose piercings.

Ongoing breaches of our uniform policy will be dealt with through the School Behaviour Policy.

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.

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 students.

The board will also make sure that the school's uniform supplier arrangements give the highest priority to cost, quality and durability and hence, value for money, and by re-tendering contracts at least every 5 years.

Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed annually. At every review, it will be approved by the Governing Body.

Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

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