

Richard Lander School



Uniform Policy

Policy Effective From: September 2024

Responsibility: Assistant Head/Deputy Head/Head/Governing Body

Reviewed and monitored by: Assistant Head/Deputy Head/Head/Governing Body

Review Date: September 2025

Introduction

All students should be in full school uniform whilst at school and on the way to or from school. Students are ambassadors of the school, expected to uphold the school's values and ethos.

A complete list of the items included in the school uniform can be found in the student planner, on the school's website and in the school's prospectus.

Aims and objectives

Our policy is based on the notion that a school uniform should:

- promote a sense of pride in the school
- engenders a feeling of community and belonging
- is a symbol of equality
- identifies students with the school
- is practical and smart
- is not distracting (as fashion clothes might be)
- is suitable and good value for money
- has been designed with health and safety in mind.

DfE Guidance

The school has carefully considered the DfE guidance on uniform in developing its policy. This includes matters in relation to parental consultation, uniform supplier list and tendering process, cost and value for money, the number of branded items, etc.

The Role of Parents/Carers

Parents are expected to fully support the school's uniform policy and its implementation.

Please note: the school's interpretation of uniform standards as applied to any student, is final and parents are expected to support this.

The Role of Governors

It is the Governors' responsibility to ensure that the school uniform meets national regulations concerning equal opportunities.

The Governing Body is supportive of the uniform policy set by the school and delegates the implementation and management of this to the Headteacher and the wider staff team.

Day to Day Management

The Headteacher plus the wider staff team, are responsible for implementation of the school uniform policy.

The Tutor should address issues as they arise, during morning and afternoon tutorial sessions. This should be supported by teachers and support staff during lessons, break times etc. Should an issue be more problematic or persistent, it will be addressed by the Student Support team and / or Senior Leadership Team.

For minor breaches of school Uniform Policy, staff should use professional judgement in issuing direction or sanction. This includes a student being:

- issued with replacement items by the Student Support team
- issued with a slip, to acknowledge the issue has been dealt with
- required, where reasonable, to adjust their uniform (e.g.: the removal of excessive make-up or nose stud)
- given a fixed time period in which to rectify the issue (normally the next day)
- issued a detention or further internal school sanction
- sent home to change into correct uniform, in consultation with parents

As per the detail above, the school's interpretation of the uniform code is final and so is any sanction issued. Parents are expected to support this.

Non-uniform days

Non-uniform days are occasionally used to reward students or to raise funds for charity/charitable causes. In these circumstances, standards of dress should:

- be safe and practical for school use
- not promote unacceptable themes – drugs, violence, racism etc.
- be appropriate in fashion and acceptable to the school

Monitoring and review

The uniform policy will be formally reviewed every 3 years. This will involve formal consultation with students, parents and governors.

The senior team will also consult with students and parents on an annual basis, with regard to aspects of the school's uniform, value for money principles etc., in line with DfE guidance. It will report parental feedback through the Teaching and Learning committee.

Supplementary Guidance to the Interpretation of School Uniform

Coats

Students should bring a waterproof coat/jacket to school every day.

Only waterproof coats / jackets may be worn at break / lunch time (non-waterproof coats or sweatshirts/hoodies other than the school's uniform may not be worn). No outdoor coats / jackets and no non-uniform sweatshirts / hoodies may be worn inside the building, for security purposes.

RLS Hoodie / Jumper / Cardigan

The school jumper/cardigan is a requisite part of the school uniform. No other sweatshirt / hoodie / jumper / cardigan is acceptable wear, even on the way to or from school)

Trousers / Shorts / Skirts

The only trousers, shorts, skirts which may be purchased are the RLS branded items available through Trutex, our uniform supplier.

Belts

Belts should be slim and black.

Shoes

Students may only wear all black footwear. This can be formal shoes or trainers, so long as they are all black with no visible logo or marking of a different colour to black.

For health and safety reasons, the school does not permit high heels, platform shoes, sandals, backless shoes or flip flops. Boots of any variety are also not permitted.

Hats

These may be worn to and from school, but are not to be worn whilst on school premises.

Tights / Socks

Tights should be all black and formal. They should not be sheer or near to sheer looking. Nor should they be patterned. No footless tights or leggings are permitted.

Socks should be black and comfortably cover the ankle. 'Over-the-knee' or 'trainer' socks are not permitted.

Students should either wear tights or socks. If a student chooses to wear socks as well as tights, they must be black, worn under the tights and not be visible. The only sock which can be worn outside tights are black trainer socks, which are not visible above the shoe.

Jewellery

The only jewellery permitted is: one pair of small studs (one in each ear), one small ring and a watch. (No other piercings are allowed-i.e. nose, tongue, lip, eyebrow etc.)

If a student has a nose piercing, the only stud permitted is a transparent one and only if this is acceptable to the school

Extreme haircuts

The school does not permit students to have extreme haircuts or hair colouring which is extreme or not a natural hair colour.

It is for school staff to assess what is 'extreme'.

Make-up

The school would prefer students not to wear make-up. However, if it is worn, it should be light and discrete.

Nails

Nail varnish and/or false nails of any variety should not be worn in school.

PE kit

The school has a PE kit for boys and girls which should be equally adhered to (See appendix 1).

The school reserves the right to set the standard of dress and presentation for all students which may include areas not specifically addressed in this general guide.

The school's interpretation of the uniform policy and how that might apply to students, is final.