



# Uniform Policy

# Mercer's Wood Academy

Tall Oaks Academy Trust  
Version 1

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(review September 2023)

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Date:

# Tall Oaks Academy Trust

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## REVISION OF POLICY

Date	Version	Description/Change	Author	Approved by
26/9/22	1.1	School supplier website, formatting, affordability statement, removal of hair requirements, removal of hoodie restrictions, clarification of footwear,		

## School Uniform Policy

The Board of Trustees have a statutory duty placed upon it to ensure that school policies promote good behaviour and discipline amongst the pupils. We believe that a school uniform worn by all children will promote a sense of purpose and discipline which is the foundation for both personal and academic development. Moreover, it contributes to a sense of community and belonging as all our children identify with each other and their school.

The policy was updated in September 2022 to take account of DfE guidance about the affordability of uniform.

### Aims

The wearing of a uniform will create a sense of identity and pride in the school. The children will learn to take pride in their personal appearance. By insisting on correct uniform, the parents will be assured that their children are wearing clothes that are appropriate for the activities they and safe for school life.

### Guidelines

We expect the support of all parents and carers for our policy.

It is school policy to include all our children in every activity. Provision will be made for children who, for medical or religious reasons, find the uniform inappropriate, providing they do not pose a threat to security, safety and learning, or compromise the well-being of the school community. Parents must discuss the issue with the Head of School.

Every effort will be made to help all our children keep to the uniform; pupils should not be made to feel uncomfortable nor discriminated against because their parents cannot provide them with the right school uniform.

If a child arrives at school without the proper school uniform, the following procedure will be put in place:

1. The uniform policy will be explained to the child in an age-appropriate way and they will be asked to remove, if appropriate, any part that does not conform – this might include fleece jackets inside, non-uniform hoodies, oversized hair accessories or jewellery. The teacher will speak to the parent at the end of the day and present a copy of the Uniform Policy.
2. If the uniform item cannot be removed in school, the pupil will be reminded of the policy and be advised that they must not wear the item in school. The teacher will speak to the parent at the end of the day and present a copy of the Uniform Policy.
3. If new uniform or footwear is needed to be able to conform to the policy, the teacher will advise the family to purchase the suitable items.

### Named uniform

All items must be clearly named so that lost property can be quickly returned. Children will be asked to write their name in any unnamed items.

### Makeup

No makeup or nail varnish is allowed in school. If a child arrives at school with makeup or nail varnish, they will be asked to remove it at the earliest convenience.

### Jewellery & Body Art

No jewellery, except a watch and small earring studs, are allowed in school. Jewellery is a health and safety hazard on the playground and in PE lessons and can cause distress to the child if such jewellery is mislaid or broken. If jewellery other than a watch and earring studs are worn, the pupil will be asked to remove it and hand it to the teacher. It will be returned to the parent/carer at the end of the school day. This includes charitable wristbands unless consent has been given by the school. Body art, in the form of temporary tattoos and transfers, are also unsuitable for school.

### Outerwear

Children need to be provided with outerwear that is appropriate for the current weather. The school does not specify style or colour for coats. Hats, gloves and scarves are needed for the winter months.

### Electronic devices

Mobile telephones, tablets, smart watches or similar devices are not allowed in school. These devices are not covered on the school insurance and therefore, any family sending them in an overnight bag for a stay at a second home, do so at their own risk. The teacher should be made aware so that any device can be signed in at the office

until the end of the day when it will be returned to the child. Some older children travel to school with a personal mobile phone. These devices must be signed in at the start of the day and will be kept in a secure place in the school office and redistributed at the end of the day.

### **Footwear**

In 2021, Mercer's Wood Academy changed the uniform policy to include trainers. Plain black shoes, trainers or boots are allowed as footwear in school. Boots are allowed providing they do not have a heel. Mercer's Wood Academy children need to be in footwear that allows them to move freely and run around the playground at break and lunchtimes.

### **Hair**

Pupils with long hair must have it tied or free from their faces during school. This is especially important for P.E. lessons. Oversized hair fashion accessories are not appropriate for school. They may cause a hazard in the playground and a distraction in class.

### **Spare Clothes**

It is recommended that all children in EYFS have a spare full set of clothes in their PE bag in case of accidents. This eliminates parents having to drop fresh clothes at school in the event of a toileting accident or water play. We have limited spare clothes in school in the event of an accident. Parents in any other year in school may choose to leave a spare uniform set in school. This can be arranged by talking to the class teacher.

### **Recycled Uniform**

Any unwanted items are collected and stored by Friends Of Mercer's Wood and there will be opportunities throughout the year for parents to purchase this uniform at a nominal cost. We understand that uniform can be expensive for families, particularly those with multiple children in school. The Safeguarding and Welfare Officer, Mrs Julie Jones is alert and sensitive to conversations with families who may be in need of more uniform and recycled uniform may be offered to families wherever needed.

### **PE Kit**

We do not change into and out of PE Kit during the day. On PE days, children should wear appropriate sportswear to school. Appropriate sportswear is:

- Joggers, shorts or sports leggings
- Sports/plain t-shirt
- Hoodie or sweatshirt
- Trainers or plimsolls

### **Non-Uniform Days**

At times through the school year, we hold non-uniform days. On these days, the Uniform Policy is relaxed and pupils can come dressed in their own clothes. In the interests of health & safety, the policy does not change for wearing heeled shoes or boots, hair extensions, oversized accessories or jewellery, make up and nail varnish or body art.

### **School Visits/Sporting Events**

When the children are on a school visit or attending a sporting event, it may be appropriate to change the uniform requirements for that day. If this is the case, this will be communicated to parents.

### **Suppliers of Uniform**

School Trends Online

[www.schooltrends.co.uk](http://www.schooltrends.co.uk)

Uniform Direct, 9 Market Street, Gainsborough.

[www.uniform-direct.com](http://www.uniform-direct.com)

### **Our School Uniform**

Black / Dark Grey trousers or skirt

Plain black jogging bottoms (no logo or patterns) or black leggings  
Black formal shorts  
Black jogging bottom shorts (no logo or pattern)  
White polo shirt or white shirt/blouse with collar  
Turquoise school sweatshirt or cardigan  
In warmer weather, blue and white checked school summer dress  
Plain black shoes, trainers or boots (not heeled)  
A weather-appropriate coat

### Swimming

During swimming lessons, children must wear swimming trunks or a full body swimming costume (not shorts, bikinis, tankinis etc.).

Where possible, children should bring a towel, swimming hat and goggles carried in a suitable bag. Children without appropriate attire will be provided with spares from school, where these can be sourced.