



**KIDGATE
ACADEMY**

Uniform Policy

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Approved by:	LGB	October 2025
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For Office Use Only:

Policy Version: 1.0

To make changes to this policy, please
email admin@lincolnshiregateway.co.uk.



Lincolnshire Gateway
Academies Trust

Why is it important to have a uniform policy?

The DfE strongly encourages schools to have a uniform policy as it can play a key role in:

- promoting the ethos of a school
- providing a sense of belonging and identity
- setting an appropriate tone for education.

The DfE guidance also states that: 'By creating a common identity amongst all pupils, regardless of background, a school uniform can act as a social leveller. It can reduce bullying and peer pressure to wear the latest fashions or other expensive clothes. If, however, the uniform is too expensive it can place an unreasonable burden on families.'

The Governors of Kidgate Academy agree that an Academy uniform provides a school with a sense of belonging and pride in the Academy's community. It also contributes significantly to the ethos of the Academy and sets the right tone for learning and communicates high standards.

The Governors have decided that all children should wear clothing that is in keeping with a purposeful learning ethos and is based on the following principles:

- promotes a sense of pride amongst the children in the Academy
- engenders a feeling of community and belonging
- is practical and smart
- identifies children with the Academy
- is not distracting in class
- makes children feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance
- is regarded as suitable, and good value for money, by most parents and carers
- has been designed with health and safety in mind
- impacts positively on attitudes to learning.

What factors have been considered when producing the uniform policy?

In developing the uniform policy, leaders are aware of their responsibility to ensure they comply with the Human Rights Act 1998 and Equality Act 2010 and take into account key considerations such as safeguarding requirements and the health and safety of their pupils.

In addition, and based on the recent guidance, consideration has also been given to aspects such as:

- The cost of uniform
- Branded clothing and items with logos
- Opportunities and provision for second hand uniform purchases.

Our Academy has a duty to make sure the uniform we require 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 those that have to have a school logo) 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.

What will we do to ensure our uniform is available at a reasonable cost and provides good value for money?

We will:

- Carefully consider whether any items with distinctive characteristics are necessary
- Limit items with distinctive characteristics where possible. We only require the Academy logo on our jumper and PE T-shirt

- Avoid different uniform requirements for different year/class/house groups
- Make sure arrangements are in place for parents to acquire second-hand uniform items, for example holding regular pre-loved uniform sales and swap events
- Avoid frequent changes to uniform specifications and minimising the financial impact on parents of any changes
- Consult with parents and pupils on any proposed significant changes to the uniform policy; carefully considering any complaints that are made about the policy.

What are our expectations for school uniform?

The Academy and the Governors feel strongly that all children at Kidgate are able to thrive in a safe and secure environment, which nurtures self-esteem and self-worth. To that end, this uniform and dress code allows children to be at ease amongst their peers and prevents fashion/sports-wear competition or hierarchy associated with certain items of clothing, jewellery, accessories and hair styles.

Schoolwear

- Navy sweatshirt with embroidered logo or
- Navy cardigan with embroidered logo
- KS1 - white polo or white shirt / blouse
- KS2 - white shirt or blouse
- Grey / black trousers or skirt/pinafores
- White / black or grey socks or tights for girls
- White / black or grey socks for boys

Jeans, sportswear or leggings are not allowed. During the warmer weather girls may wear blue checked dresses.

P.E. kit:

- Navy / black shorts
- Sports shirt with embroidered logo
- Rubber soled plimsolls
- Draw string P.E. bag

For outdoor P.E.

- Navy / black tracksuit bottoms
- Navy / black sweatshirt/hoodie
- Trainers

Sweatshirts and cardigans are available to purchase from Uniform Direct.

Children are advised to wear a hat / cap during the summer months to protect them from the sun during break times.

Shoes

With the ever-changing fashions in footwear, some parents have asked for guidance regarding which shoes are acceptable as part of the school uniform. Therefore, to help parents when choosing shoes for school, we have selected some images as examples of shoes that are acceptable and are available locally. Please note, that material/canvas shoes, in any design are not suitable. We hope that this information will help parents when choosing appropriate uniform.

- Flat sensible supportive shoes - plain black
- Summer sandals – flat, plain white or black, supportive and suitable for school wear and tear.
- Socks must be worn with sandals.

If you are unsure, please do not hesitate to contact the main office at the Academy who will be able to give you advice.

Examples of acceptable footwear	Examples of unacceptable footwear
	

Hairstyles

Hairstyles which are extreme are not permitted at Kidgate Academy.

This includes: No vivid or two-tone hair colours; no cuts shorter than a number 1 razor setting; no patterns cut into hair; no beaded braids or braids with cotton/material weaves; no extensions which do not match natural hair colour.

A plain hair-slide, clip or "bobble" is acceptable, but the multitude of hair ornaments favoured by some children is not. No bandanas or scarves are to be worn in the hair.

Any hairstyles that have a change in hair length must be blended. Hairstyles must be graduated with no 'stepped' patterns or lines. Mohican hairstyles are not acceptable. This includes stepped haircuts similar to the different styles of Mohican haircuts.

Longer styles (shoulder length or longer) must be tied back for health and safety reasons and to help prevent the spread of head lice.

Jewellery

Earrings

For Health and Safety reasons children with pierced ears may only wear one small plain smooth round stud in each ear. By 'stud' the following is meant: a small, smooth round circle or a gemstone only. No hoops or loops. (Staff cannot help children take earrings out.)



Wrist watch

A plain, and appropriately sized, wristwatch may be worn (no i-watches or Fit-Bits). No other jewellery is permitted.

When children participate in P.E./dance/games/swimming/drama on a particular day, no jewellery is to be worn at all and children should attend school without it. Any jewellery to be worn in school is the direct responsibility of the parent and child.

Parents intending to have their child's ears pierced must do so at the start of the summer holidays so that they may be removed after the 6 weeks for P.E. at the start of the Autumn term.

Nail Varnish and Make up

Kidgate Academy does not allow:

- False Nails / lashes
- Nail Varnish/Painted Nails
- Makeup of any sort

How will we make sure the policy is followed?

Staff will kindly encourage and remind children to wear the correct uniform as outlined above. Parents are asked to clearly label all items of clothing so that any lost belongings can be quickly returned.

Children may be asked to remove jewellery or accessories that are not part of the school uniform. If a child is not in the correct uniform, we'll get in touch with parents so we can find a solution together.

Sweatshirts, cardigans and PE shirts are available to purchase from Uniform Direct. Website: <https://www.uniform-direct.com/>.

We ask that all clothing is clearly labelled with the child's name.

Parents are to inform the school in writing if they are not able to comply with the uniform policy for any reason. For example, there may be a valid medical reason why a child has to wear alternative footwear to that in the policy. The Principal will determine if this is a valid reason and will respond in writing. The expectation will be for the child to return to being in full uniform as soon as possible.

In all matters concerning uniform, the Principal's decision is final.

What is the role of parents and carers?

- Make sure their child has the correct uniform and PE kit
- Make sure every item is clean, in good condition and clearly labelled with the child's name
- Make the Academy aware of necessary amendments in relation to their child's protected characteristics or cost of the uniform
- Make any complaints or objections relating to school uniform in a timely and reasonable manner.

What is the role of staff?

- To closely monitor children to ensure they are in the correct uniform. They will give any children and families breaching the uniform policy the opportunity to comply, but will follow up with the Principal if the situation doesn't improve.
- Ongoing breaches of our uniform policy will be dealt with by the senior leadership team and consequences may be given, in line with our Academy behaviour policy.

- In cases where it is suspected that financial hardship has resulted in a child not complying with this policy, staff will take a mindful and considerate approach to resolving the situation.

What is the role of the Governors?

- The Local Governing Body support the Principal in implementing the Academy uniform policy. They consider all representations from parents and carers regarding this policy and liaise with the Principal to ensure that the policy is implemented fairly and with sensitivity.
- It is the Local Governing Body's responsibility to ensure that the Academy uniform meets all national regulations concerning equal opportunities, and that our Academy uniform policy is consistent with our policy on equal opportunities.
- The Local Governing Body ensures that the Academy uniform policy helps children to dress sensibly, in clothing that is hardwearing, safe and practical.
- The Local Governing Body will also make sure that the uniform supplier arrangements give the highest priority to cost and value for money.

How often will this policy be reviewed?

This policy will be reviewed by the Local Governing Body every three years or sooner if considered necessary.

How does this policy link to others?

This policy is linked to our:

- Behaviour Policy
- Equality Information and Objectives Statement
- Anti-bullying Policy
- Complaints Policy.