



# Finlay Community School

ASPIRE

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# School Uniform Policy

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|------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <b>Governor Committee Responsible:</b>         | Finlay Combined Committee | <b>Staff Lead(s):</b>   | Hannah Williams/<br>Michelle Bryce |
| <b>Status</b><br><i>(Statutory / Advisory)</i> | Advisory                  | <b>Review Cycle</b>     | Annually                           |
| <b>Last Review</b>                             | September 2026            | <b>Next Review Date</b> | September 2027                     |
| <b>Chair of Governors</b>                      | Michael Adlam             |                         |                                    |

## **Contents**

1. Aims
2. Our school's legal duties under the Equality Act 2010
3. Limiting the cost of school uniform
4. Expectations for school uniform
5. Expectations for our school community
6. Monitoring arrangements
7. Links to other policies

### **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 parents and carers
- Ensure that the cost of school uniform does not act as a barrier to attendance or participation in school life.
- 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 sex, race, religion or belief, 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 or that most reflects their self-identified gender
- Make sure that our uniform costs the same for all pupils
- Allow all pupils to have long hair, although we ask that hair is tied back for health, safety or practical activities.
- Allow pupils to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons
- Allow pupils to wear headscarves and other religious or cultural symbols
- The school will consider reasonable adjustments for pupils with disabilities and/or SEND, as well as requests relating to other protected characteristics.

### 3. Limiting the cost of school uniform

Finlay Community School does not require any compulsory branded items. Items displaying the school logo are optional, and suitable plain alternatives may be purchased from any retailer.

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.

When reviewing uniform requirements, the school will consider the total cost to families, including school uniform, PE kit and other required clothing. Families experiencing difficulty obtaining uniform are encouraged to contact the school confidentially so that appropriate support can be offered.

‘Pre – Loved’ uniform is available throughout the school year. Details of how families can access second-hand uniform are published on the school website and are available from the school office.

We will make sure our uniform:

- Is available at a reasonable cost
- Provides the best value for money for parents/carers We will do this by:
  - Not having any items with distinctive characteristics
  - Considering cheaper alternatives to school-branded items, as long as this doesn't compromise quality and durability
  - Avoiding specific requirements for items pupils could wear on non-school days, such as coats, bags and shoes
  - No requirement for branded items
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for different year/class/house groups
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities
- Making sure that arrangements are in place for parents to acquire second-hand uniform items
- Avoiding frequent changes to uniform specifications and minimising the financial impact on parents of any changes
- Consulting with parents and pupils on any proposed significant changes to the uniform policy and carefully considering any complaints about the policy

## 4. Expectations for school uniform

### 4.1 Our school's uniform

#### Required School Uniform

- Grey or black trousers/joggers/leggings, skirt, pinafore dress or shorts, these shorts must be of an appropriate length, reaching at least mid – thigh.
- Purple school summer dress
- White or purple shirt/polo shirt with/without the school logo
- Purple jumper/sweatshirt or cardigan with/without the school logo
- Black shoes or trainers

#### PE Kit

- A plain white t-shirt **OR** a plain t-shirt in their house team colour - yellow, red, blue, green
- Plain black or navy joggers, leggings or shorts
- A school jumper/cardigan **OR** a plain purple hoody **OR** a school hoody:

Where an item is described as 'plain', it should be without decorative features such as frills, bows, patterns, slogans or prominent branding.

#### In Key Stage 2 children will require a swimming kit

- A one-piece swimming costume or Trunks/shorts that do not extend below the knee
- Towel
- Swimming cap

#### Outdoor Play and Learning (OPAL)

As part of our Outdoor Play & Learning scheme (OPAL) pupils are required to bring the following uniform to school:

- Wellington Boots
- Waterproof Coat
- Waterproof trousers (optional)

These items do not need to be branded and may be purchased from any retailer. Families who have difficulty providing these items should contact the school.

#### Jewellery

The only permitted jewellery that may be worn is:

- One pair of stud earrings (no other piercings are permitted)
- A wristwatch (not a smartwatch)

Jewellery is the responsibility of the pupil and not the school. Lost or damaged items will not be refunded. All jewellery must be removed during practical lessons, for example, PE lessons / swimming lessons. If children cannot remove their own earrings, then this should be done at home on the day of PE.

### School Bag

Pupils must use an appropriately sized waterproof bag to carry their books and equipment. It should hold children's books and reading diaries comfortably without causing any damage.

- Large bags / large rucksacks are **discouraged** for day-to-day lessons due to space on children's pegs.
- School bags featuring inappropriate images, slogans or phrases are not permitted.
- The school encourages pupils to bring non-valuable bags to school.
- The school will not be liable for lost or damaged school bags.

### Water Bottle

All children should bring a water bottle into school every day: this can be refilled by children whenever necessary during the day.

### Make-Up

- False nail / nail extensions or eyelash extensions are not permitted.
- Children are not allowed to wear make-up.
- At the Head Teacher's discretion, there may be exceptions to the above in certain circumstances e.g. a pupil may be permitted to cover heavy scarring/skin damage.

### Religious Clothing / Ceremonial Wear

Requests relating to religious or cultural clothing will be considered individually, taking account of the Equality Act 2010, the needs of the pupil and any relevant health, safety or safeguarding considerations. Where a parent or carer is dissatisfied with the school's decision, they may raise their concerns through the school's Complaints Policy.

## 4.2 Where to purchase uniform

Branded uniform can be purchased from:

Monkhouse  
99 Northgate Street  
Gloucester  
GL1 2AA

Telephone: 01452 413339

Website: [www.monkhouse.com](http://www.monkhouse.com)

My Clothing Limited Website: [www.myclothing.com](http://www.myclothing.com)

## 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:

- At out-of-school events or on trips that are organised by the school, or where they are representing the school
- On the school premises

A pupil will not be prevented from attending school solely because they do not have the correct uniform. The school will work with the pupil and family to understand the circumstances and, where appropriate, provide suitable uniform or other support.

- 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.

### 5.3 Staff

The policy will be applied consistently, reasonably and proportionately, taking account of individual circumstances, affordability, SEND/disability and other equality considerations.

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.

Ongoing breaches of our uniform policy will be managed by Hannah Williams, Headteacher.

#### **5.4 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 pupils

The board will also make sure that the school's uniform supplier arrangements give the highest priority to cost and value for money.

#### **6. Monitoring arrangements**

This policy will be reviewed annually.

#### **7. Links to other policies**

This policy is linked to our:

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