Uniform and Equipment Policy

Date reviewed	June 2025
Frequency	Annually
Next review date	July 2026
Reviewed by	Health & Safety, Premises & Safeguarding Committee

Signed:..... Dated: 10/07/2025

Chair of Governors

Signed:..... Dated: 10/07/2025

Principal

Rationale

At Goldington Academy, we believe that our uniform plays a key part in promoting and maintaining a sense of pride and identity in our school community. By adhering to the policy, our students demonstrate that they wish to be a part of the school community and that they uphold the ethos and values of the school. Our uniform also acts as a social leveller and is designed to remove the influence of peer pressure in our students' day to day dress, therefore preventing any potential for bullying or discrimination. We also believe that wearing uniform is hugely important in preparing our students for employment in their adult lives, in which they may be required to dress appropriately for their role or to adhere to a specific dress code. It is expected that students adhere rigorously to the uniform policy at all times, unless otherwise agreed with the Academy Principal.

As part of their ongoing development, students are expected to take responsibility for their own organisation and equipment. Being properly equipped is of prime importance in maximising time spent learning during lessons. In light of the findings by Ofsted in the *Below the Radar*[1] report, it is clear that students risk wasting significant amounts of learning time if they are not properly equipped for each lesson of the day. In order to ensure minimum disruption to learning time, Goldington Academy expects all students to carry the essential equipment, as outlined in this policy, at all times unless otherwise agreed with the Academy Principal.

Aims

- To ensure that all students are dressed practically and appropriately for learning and the school environment.
- To ensure all students are equipped appropriately for learning at all times.
- To create and maintain a school identity that represents the high standards and ethos of the school.
- To provide a procedure for staff to challenge students whose dress, appearance and equipment does not comply with the school's policy.
- To ensure that the uniform is easily available and easily affordable for parents.
- To work within the latest DFE guidance on uniform.
- To work within existing legal frameworks, namely the Human Rights Act 1998 and the Equality Act 2010.

Human Rights and Equality Acts

Some religions and beliefs require their adherents to conform to a particular dress code, or to otherwise outwardly manifest their belief. This could include wearing or carrying specific religious artefacts, not cutting their hair, dressing modestly, or covering their head. Pupils have the right to manifest a religion or belief. Goldington Academy respects the rights of every individual student and endeavours to support them in adhering to the dress/appearance requirements of their chosen religion, so long as this does not pose any risk to the health and safety of themselves or others and does not cause offence or show disrespect to any other race or religion.

Uniform Checklist

REQUIRED UNIFORM LIST

Item	Buy from
Basic Uniform	
Blazer or fitted blazer – navy with logo	School shop
Tie – navy	School shop
Collared shirt – white	Anywhere
V-necked pullover – grey with logo **(not compulsory) OR**	School shop
V-necked slipover – grey with logo **(not compulsory)**	School shop
Skirt – grey check **OR**	School shop
Trousers – plain dark grey tailored	Anywhere
Shoes – sensible style, black	Anywhere
Socks – plain black	Anywhere

Item	Buy from
Girls' PE Uniform	
Girls PE t-shirt – navy with logo	School shop
Girls PE jumper – ¼ zip navy with logo	School shop
PE skort or PE shorts – navy with logo	School shop
Plain black leggings (To be worn under skort or shorts not on their own!)	Anywhere

Item	Buy from
Boys' PE Uniform	
Boys PE t-shirt – navy with logo	School shop
Boys rugby shirt – navy and white	School shop
PE shorts – navy with logo	School shop
Games socks – navy	School shop/Anywhere
Tracksuit bottoms – plain black or navy with no logo	Anywhere
Under armour (winter months) – plain black or navy	Anywhere
PE socks – short white	Anywhere
Gum shield and shin pads	Anywhere
Sport footwear – trainers and football boots	Anywhere
Games socks – navy	School shop/Anywhere
Tracksuit Bottoms – plain black or navy with no logo	Anywhere
Under armour (winter months) – plain black or navy	Anywhere
PE socks – short white	Anywhere
Gum shield and shin pads	Anywhere
Sport footwear – trainers and football boots	Anywhere

https://www.totalclothingshop.co.uk/goldingtonacademy

The school is actively sourcing second hand uniform to reduce cost for incoming parents. The Second Hand shop is available to purchase items by contacting the school via email: catrambonej@goldington.beds.sch.uk. In addition, a pop up shop for new Year 7 intake will be arranged annually prior to the students joining Goldington Academy.

Equipment checklist

Essential daily equipment:
Black/blue pens
Pencils/
Ruler, pencil sharpener, eraser
Pupil planner (1 provided each year by Goldington Academy – if lost/defaced by pupil then pupils will be expected to buy a new planner)
Pencil case
Maths equipment (Protractor, compass, scientific calculator)

Optional daily equipment:
Colouring pencils, highlighters
Water bottle with sports cap

Pupil non-compliance

Teachers can discipline pupils for breaching the school's rules on appearance or uniform. This should be carried out in accordance with the school's published behaviour policy.

A Principal, or a person authorised by the Principal, may ask a pupil to go home briefly to remedy a breach of the school's rules on appearance or uniform. When making this decision schools need to consider the child's age and vulnerability, the ease and time it will take, and the availability of the child's parents.

This is not an exclusion but an authorised absence. However, if the pupil continues to breach uniform rules in such a way as to be sent home to avoid school, or takes longer than is strictly necessary to effect the change, the pupil's absence may be counted as an unauthorised absence. In either case the pupil's parents must be notified and the absence should be recorded. If a school is considering excluding a pupil in response to breaches of uniform policy then this must be in line with the legal requirements for exclusion[2].

[2] DFE, School Uniform, guidance for governing bodies, school staff and local authorities 2013.

Form Tutors and Heads of Year will routinely check the uniform and equipment of students in their year group/form group and will follow the procedure outlined below when challenging non-compliance with the academy uniform and equipment policy.

Unacceptable items of uniform/dress:

- Trousers with decorative items, such as buttons or embroidery are NOT permitted. Trousers should be tailored and NOT be made of stretch, lycra, skinny or highly fashionable in style, nor should they have cargo or jeans style pockets.
- Dark grey **shorts** do **not** form part of the school uniform and therefore they should not be worn.
- Jewellery other than that listed below is NOT allowed:
    - One small plain stud in each ear
    - One ring permitted on each hand
    - Bracelets on the grounds of religious or medical needs

  Please note - piercing retainers are not allowed to be used as a substitute for piercings. Any student attending school with piercings that are not permitted will be asked to remove them, once they have healed. No other visible body piercing is acceptable. A watch may be worn provided it is marked with the owner's name.
- The wearing of wrist bands and bracelets is not permitted, unless for religious purposes.
- Only badges provided by the school are to be worn.
- Hair styles should NOT include unnatural colours, patterns or designs. Any student wearing unnatural colour in their hair will be asked to remove it immediately (please see non-compliance section below).
- No tramlines or patterns should be shaved into hair or the eyebrows.
- Hair bands should be discreet and plain in colour e.g. black, blue etc. Fashion type hair bands should not be worn in school.
- Trainers should not be worn during classroom-based lessons, unless otherwise agreed by the Academy Principal. If trainers are to be worn for an agreed reason, they should be black and discreet.
- Light make-up may be worn e.g. concealer, mascara. However, students may be asked to remove makeup if it is deemed to be inappropriate or too heavy e.g. foundation.
- Nail varnish should NOT be worn. Any students who are found to be wearing nail varnish will be asked to remove it. Continued wearing of jewellery or nail varnish will result in a referral to the Head of Year and may result in a consequence such as loss of break/lunch time as outlined in the procedures below.

The Governing Body recognises that areas such as uniform can be open to subjective interpretation and on occasion abuse. Therefore, to avoid difficulty or embarrassment, we ask parents and pupils to operate well within these guidelines rather than at their extremes.

Coats appropriate for the season are an important part of school kit for your child. All children go outside at break and lunch time and, as you know, the British weather can change during the school day!

Procedure for pupil non-compliance with uniform/equipment policy

Stage 1: Note in planner from Form Tutor.
Pupil given 1 week to rectify.

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Stage 2: Phone call home from Form Tutor and consequence

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Stage 3: Parents asked to meet with Form Tutor. Consequence for student, i.e. loss of breaks/lunch times.

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Stage 4: Referred to Head of Year.
Parents contacted to discuss reasons for non-compliance with the policy and strategies to rectify the situation.

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Stage 5: Referral to SLT/Academy Principal

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