

Uniform Policy

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Introduction

At King's Academy Rowner we have a school uniform because we recognise that a consistent uniform approach increases children's identity and self-esteem, impacting positively on behaviour. It puts the children in the right frame of mind for working and ensures that pupils are not differentiated from one another. We have given careful consideration to the uniform list ensuring that it is readily available and reasonably priced.

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
- Explain how we will avoid discrimination in line with our legal duties under the Equality Act 2010 and meet the requirements of the Education (Guidance about Costs of School Uniforms) Act 2021 and any other subsequent legislation
- Clarify our Trust expectations for each of our academies for school uniform only (excluding appearance and jewellery)

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

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- Make sure that our uniform costs are consistent based on pupils' age and/or size within each academy
- Enable pupils and their parents / carers to request changes for religious and cultural reason
- Understand that some pupils may need to adapt elements of the uniform for religious or cultural reasons (e.g., headscarves, longer skirts, or modest sportswear). Adaptations can be discussed on a case-by-case basis with the Headteacher, ensuring they remain in line with health and safety requirements
- Allow for adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking pupils or their parents contact the Headteacher who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests

3. Limiting the Cost of School Uniform

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.

We will make sure our uniform:

- Is available at a reasonable cost
- Provides the best value for money for parents/carers

In line with the Education (Guidance about Costs of School Uniforms) Act 2021, we will:

- Use a single uniform supplier for specific branded items, ensuring competitive pricing. We use a local company: <u>The Print and Sew Station</u>
- Keep branded items to a minimum, with non-branded alternatives widely available in supermarkets and high-street stores.
- Review supplier contracts regularly to ensure best value.
- Offer second-hand uniform sales at least to provide affordable options for all families.
- Keeping uniform consistent across the school and over time to avoid the need to purchase items more frequently
- Not having unnecessary additional uniform

4. Expectations for School Uniform

4.1 Our School Uniform

| Item of Clothing | Colour |
|---|---|
| Tailored trousers (no leggings) | Black |
| Skirts (no minis - ideally just above the knee) | Black |
| Shirts / blouses | White |
| Polo shirts | Maroon or white |
| Jumper / Cardigan | Maroon with KGA Rowner logo |
| Socks | Black or white (no patterns or branding) |
| Tights | Black |
| Shoes / trainers | Shoes should be black, smart, and practical for daily school activities. While plain black trainers are permitted, they must be free from visible |



| logos, branding, or coloured accents. High heels or backless shoes are not permitted for safety |
|--|
| reasons. |

4.3 Summer Uniform (can be worn from after Easter until October half-term)

Summer uniform can be worn from after the Easter holiday and up to the October half term.

| Item of Clothing | Colour |
|--|---------------------------------|
| Tailored black shorts | Black (no patterns or branding) |
| Gingham summer dress or playsuit | Maroon (not red) |
| Sandal - with straps over the toe and around the ankle and worn with a sock for added protection of the foot | White or black |

4.4 PE Kit

| Item of Clothing | Colour |
|---|--|
| Shorts, full-length cycling shorts e.g. covering more than the buttocks or skort | Black (no visible branding) |
| Round-necked t-shirt | White |
| King's Academy Rowner branded zipped sports jacket or School jumper or cardigan | Maroon with KA Rowner logo in house colour |
| Base layers -optional | Black (no visible branding) |
| Tracksuit - optional | Black (no visible branding) |
| Socks | Black or white |
| Trainers | Black or other |

4.5 Hair

Hair should be **neat and well-maintained**, with **no extreme styles** (e.g., unnatural bright colours, shaved patterns, or excessive spikes). Pupils with longer hair should tie it back for safety at all times. Hair must be tied back for PE. Any concerns about compliance should be discussed with the Headteacher on an individual basis.

4.6 Jewellery

Any jewellery worn to school should be able to be removed by the child when necessary. With the exception of a single or a pair of stud earrings in pierced ears or a digital or analogue watch, children should not wear jewellery to school. Pupils may wear a simple analogue or digital watch (no internet access). Fitness trackers are permitted, but must be used only for timekeeping and step tracking. Any

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smartwatch or device with internet access, games, or messaging capabilities is not permitted. Any misuse (e.g. playing a game that some are enabled with) will lead to them not being permitted in school. The school cannot accept any responsibility or liability for mislaid personal jewellery. To help keep your child safe, earrings and watches need to be removed for PE. Therefore, you may wish to advise your child not to wear these on PE days.

4.7 Make-up

Children should not be wearing any form of make-up e.g. lipstick, eyeliner, mascara etc.

4.8 Nails

Painted nails i.e. nail varnish or fake nails should not be worn to school.

4.9 School Bags

Pupils may bring a small, practical bag for carrying school essentials. Bags should be compact enough to fit into the storage bag by the coat pegs. Oversized bags (e.g., large backpacks or fashion bags) are discouraged, as they take up unnecessary space.

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:

- On the school premises
- At out-of-school events or on trips that are organised by the school, or where they are representing the school (if required)
- Pupils are expected to wear their uniform smartly at all times, for example keeping polo shirts tucked in and not wearing sweatshirts/cardigans around their waists

5.2 Parents and Carers

Parents and carers are expected to make sure their child has the correct uniform and PE kit, and that every item is:

- Clean
- Clearly labelled with the child's name
- In good condition
- Communicate with the school regarding any issues with uniform items

5.3 Staff

- Staff will closely monitor pupils to make sure they are in the correct uniform
- Staff will give any pupils and families breaching the uniform policy the opportunity to comply, but will follow-up with parents/carers. If the situation does not improve a member of the senior leadership team will arrange a meeting with the parent/carer.
- If a pupil is unable to meet uniform expectations due to financial hardship, staff will work compassionately with parents/carers to find a solution, including signposting to second-hand uniform options and discussing alternative arrangements. No child will be unfairly sanctioned due to financial barriers.

5.4 Governance

The Local Governing Body 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

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• The Local Governing Body will 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 every two years. At every review, it will be adopted by the Governing body.

7. Links to other policies

- Behaviour Policy
- SEND Policy
- Safeguarding Policy
- Anti-bullying Policy
- Complaints Policy
- Equality Statement

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