

Ref. JS/SLP

14 December 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

### **Uniform Policy Update**

We know that recent increases in the cost of living will be impacting many families so have looked at ways in which we may be able to relieve some of the financial pressures you may be experiencing. We recognise that school uniform can be expensive. Together with the feedback we have received from students, parents and carers, we have reviewed our Uniform Policy for secondary students.

Currently, all secondary students are required to wear trousers or skirts that feature the Trust logo which are only available from Trutex Direct or one of the approved local uniform suppliers. This requirement has meant we have been able to maintain the quality and consistency of uniform and have avoided the distraction that can be created by discussions about what does and does not meet the uniform standards. However, we recognise that garments purchased from our suppliers, whilst of high quality, can be more expensive than equivalents available from supermarkets or high street stores.

In reviewing the policy, we have taken the decision to remove the requirement for students to wear logoed trousers and skirts. This change will be effective from 1 January 2023. Students will still be required to wear appropriate school trousers and skirts, as described below.

#### Trousers

- must be plain black and in a tailored formal style;
- must **not** be cropped, tight/skinny fit, made of stretch or patterned fabric. They must **not** have decorative buttons, buckles or fashion belts;
- jeans, flares, cargo or bootlegged trousers, tracksuit bottoms, jeggings or leggings are **not** acceptable.

#### Skirts

- must be plain black and in a tailored formal style. Skirts may be A-line, pencil or pleated (twin, knife or box pleat);
- tight-fitting, tube skirts are **not** acceptable;

Outwood Grange Academies Trust, a company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales with company number 06995649.

Registered office address: Potovens Lane, Outwood, Wakefield, West Yorkshire WF1 2PF.

VAT number: 158 2720 04. Outwood Grange Academies Trust is an exempt charity.

A list of Directors' names is open to inspection at our registered office.

- must sit on or just above the knee;
- must **not** be made of jersey, stretch or patterned fabric;
- must be worn with a minimum of plain black 40 denier tights.

Students wearing items that do not match these descriptions will be asked to change and support will be given to parents/carers to source acceptable garments. We have attached a guide which includes images of what is and is not acceptable that students, parents and carers may find useful when purchasing non-logoed school trousers and skirts.

As part of the optional PE kit, a plain white long sleeved t-shirt has been added to the policy for students who need to cover their arms in the summer for religious reasons.

Should you have any queries regarding uniform, please contact your child's Learning Manager. If you are unsure about a garment's suitability, we advise you not to remove any tags/labels and retain your receipt until the item has been checked by a colleague in school. The Principal will retain the final decision.

Trutex and our approved local uniform suppliers will continue to sell their remaining stocks of logoed trousers and skirts. You may wish to consider them when purchasing non-logoed school trousers and skirts. Trutex will also continue to offer their Pre-Loved uniform initiative. More details can be found by visiting [Trutex.com](http://Trutex.com) and using the school code LEA00980SC.

Families experiencing difficulties in paying for uniform and school shoes may wish to make an application to the school's discretionary Hardship Fund, available to all registered full-time school students. Please speak to your child's Learning Manager or find further information [here](#).

We believe that a smart uniform improves discipline, self-esteem and self-respect. Uniform focuses attention upon learning and away from distractions. So that all pupils have a sense of pride in their appearance, we ask that the uniform is worn appropriately and in its entirety.

We hope that making this adjustment will go some way in helping you in these difficult times and we welcome your support in ensuring that your child continues to wear the correct uniform as specified above.

Yours faithfully

**Julie Slater**

Chief Executive Principal, Secondary

# Uniform Guide

We believe that a smart uniform improves discipline, self-esteem and self-respect. Uniform focuses attention upon learning and away from distractions. So that all pupils have a sense of pride in their appearance, we ask that the uniform is worn appropriately and in its entirety, as described below.

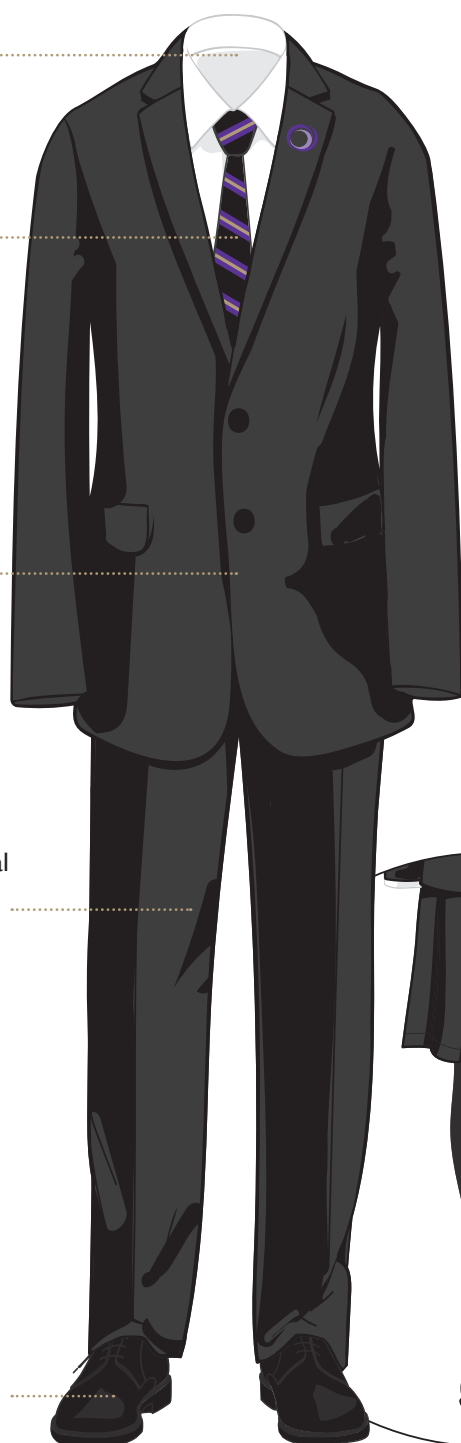
**Shirt** - school or plain white, long or short sleeved shirt with a stiff collar.

**Tie** - school clip-on tie available to buy from school, Trutex Direct and approved local uniform suppliers.

**Jacket** - black school jacket with school logo available to buy from Trutex Direct and approved local uniform suppliers.

**Trousers** - black tailored formal style trousers worn with plain black socks. Please see reverse for more information.

**Shoes** - plain black shoes free from embellishments and decorations. Heels should be no higher than 2.5cm/1 inch. No trainers, boots, pumps or canvas shoes. Please refer to the Uniform Policy for more information.



**Tunic Dress** - tunic dress - black, with school logo available to buy from Trutex Direct and approved local uniform suppliers.

**Skirt** - black tailored formal skirt which sits on or just above the knee. Must be worn with black tights. Please see reverse for more information.

**Tights** - plain black, opaque (not patterned) and a minimum of 40 denier. Nothing else should be worn on top or under the tights such as additional socks.

## Students are reminded that

- sleeves on shirts, jumpers or jackets must not be rolled up at any time;
- shirts must be tucked in;
- ties must not be defaced with writing or by pulling threads;
- school bags must be large enough to fit a school planner and A4 workbooks;
- only badges agreed by the school may be worn on jackets. Other badges, e.g. charity badges, must only be on outdoor coats or bags;
- consequences can/will be issued for any uniform misdemeanour.

**Optional V Neck Jumper** - black full length sleeved V neck jumper.

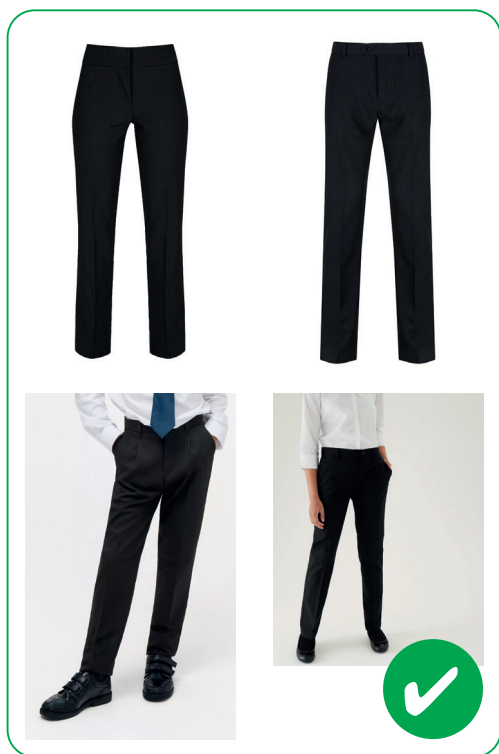
**Optional Outdoor Coats** - should be fit for purpose and have no large logos. Please note that hoodies, fur, denim and studded leather jackets are not allowed. We also recommend that children who walk, scoot or cycle to school wear an item with high visibility, particularly in the darker winter months.

# NON-LOGOED UNIFORM GUIDE

Effective from 1 January 2023, secondary students will no longer be required to wear logoed trousers and skirts. Students will still be required to wear appropriate school trousers and skirts, as described in this guide.

## Trousers

- must be plain black and in a tailored formal style;
- must **not** be cropped, tight/skinny fit, made of stretch or patterned fabric. They should **not** have decorative buttons, buckles or fashion belts;
- jeans, flares, cargo, bootlegged trousers, tracksuit bottoms, jeggings or leggings are **not** acceptable.



## Skirts

- must be plain black and in a tailored formal style. Skirts may be A-line, pencil or pleated (twin, knife or box pleat);
- tight-fitting, tube skirts are **not** acceptable;
- must sit on or just above the knee;
- must **not** be made of jersey, stretch or patterned fabric;
- must be worn with a minimum of plain black 40 denier tights.



Should you have any queries regarding uniform, please contact your child's Learning Manager. If you are unsure about a garment's suitability, we advise you not to remove any tags/labels and retain your receipt until the item has been checked by a colleague in school. The Principal will retain the final decision.