



The Holden
School

Uniform Policy

Reviewed	September 2025
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Reviewed by	Alan Harrison

1. Introduction and Rationale

This policy outlines the uniform requirements for all pupils at The Holden School. Developed in consultation with staff, pupils, and parents/carers, it reflects the unique context and values of our school community.

While we maintain a standard uniform, we recognise that every pupil is an individual with unique needs. We are committed to a flexible approach; where necessary, uniform requirements will be adapted or modified on a case-by-case basis to ensure every pupil feels comfortable, supported, and ready to learn.

Why have a uniform?

- **Health and Safety:** To ensure pupils' safety, particularly during off-site activities and vocational lessons.
- **School Identity:** To foster a sense of belonging, pride, and community within The Holden School, aligning with our value of embracing and respecting individuality within a supportive environment.
- **Minimising Distractions:** To reduce distractions related to clothing choices, allowing pupils to focus on their learning and personal development.



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- **Visibility:** To easily identify pupils, particularly in the event that they leave the school site without permission, ensuring their safety and well-being.
- **Equity:** To promote fairness and reduce potential social disparities related to clothing.

2. Uniform Guidelines

To support your child's learning and that of their classmates, please ensure they wear the following:

2.1. School Logo

- Each pupil should wear at least one item with the school logo in a visible position (e.g., on the thigh of pants or on the chest of a T-shirt, sweater, or polo shirt).
- Iron-on logos are provided by the school for application to existing clothing.

2.2. Dress Code

Tops:

- **Allowed:** Black T-shirts, black or white polo shirts, black sweaters (no hood), white school shirts, black or grey fleece.
- **Not Allowed:** Hoodies, vest tops, see-through tops, crop tops, and any other logos (other than the school logo).

Bottoms:

- **Allowed:** Black or grey school trousers, shorts, sweatpants, leggings, skirts (reasonable length), cycling shorts, skorts, and black jeans.
- **Not Allowed:** Sports shorts or short skirts (above mid-thigh).

Headwear:

- **Allowed:** School beanie hats (available for order) and plain black religious headwear.

- **Not Allowed:** Any other headwear not mentioned.

Footwear:

- **Allowed:** Trainers, school shoes, flat shoes.
- **Not Allowed:** Open-toe shoes, backless shoes, high heels, steel toe caps, knee high boots or crocs.

Socks and Tights:

- **Allowed:** Plain black tights (any thickness) and ankle-height socks.
- **Not Allowed:** Knee-high socks, coloured tights, hold ups/stockings or patterned tights.

2.3. Jewellery, Makeup, and Nails

- **Jewellery:** Pupils may wear jewellery that follows health and safety guidelines.
 - Dangling jewellery must be removed before PE or Outdoor Education. ○ Rings should be flat and not protruding.
 - Bracelets and watches should be covered to avoid distractions – i.e., knocking against the table when writing. ○ All jewellery must be removed during vocational lessons (hair, catering, motor vehicle) for safety.
- **Makeup and Nails:**
 - **Allowed:** Suitable makeup and nail polish, but nail polish must be removed for Catering and Hospitality lessons.
 - **Not Allowed:** Long or false nails. Please ensure nails are kept short for safety during PE, Outdoor Education, and Catering. Painted nails or false nails are not allowed for hospitality and catering lessons to comply with industry standards.



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2.4. Considerations for Pupils with Sensory Needs

- The Holden School recognises that some pupils may have sensory sensitivities that affect their ability to wear certain fabrics or styles of clothing.
- Parents/carers are encouraged to communicate any specific sensory needs to the school SENCO or pastoral team.
- Reasonable adjustments will be made to the uniform policy on an individual basis to accommodate these needs, while still maintaining the overall aims of the policy.
- Examples of reasonable adjustments may include allowing specific types of fabric, looser-fitting clothing, or alternative footwear options.

3. Learning Outside the Classroom (Year 6 and KS3)

Summer:

- T-shirt
- Fleece
- Waterproof jacket
- Trousers
- Trainers with good grip
- Change of clothes
- Sun hat & sun cream
- Water bottle
- **No hoodies due to safety concerns.**

Winter:

- T-shirt

- Fleece
- Waterproof jacket
- Trousers
- Trainers with good grip
- Change of clothes
- Warm hat, gloves, and scarf
- Water bottle
- **No hoodies due to safety concerns.**

Note: School uniform should be worn for all trips unless otherwise informed, including end-of-term trips and visits.

4. Roles and Responsibilities

- **Pupils:** To adhere to the uniform policy and take pride in their appearance as representatives of The Holden School.
- **Parents/Carers:** To support the school by ensuring their child adheres to the uniform policy. To communicate any concerns or difficulties in meeting the policy requirements to the school.
- **Staff:** To consistently and fairly enforce the uniform policy. To address any uniform related issues sensitively and supportively. To be aware of pupils who may have specific needs or circumstances that affect their ability to comply with the policy.
- **Senior Leadership Team (SLT):** To oversee the implementation and review of the uniform policy. To ensure that the policy is communicated effectively to all stakeholders. To address any complaints or appeals related to the policy.
- **Governing Body:** To ratify the uniform policy and ensure that it complies with all relevant legislation and guidance. To monitor the effectiveness of the policy and address any concerns raised by stakeholders.

5. Implementation and Monitoring

- The uniform policy will be communicated to all pupils, parents/carers, and staff through the school website, newsletters, and parent information evenings.
- The school will maintain a supply of iron-on logos for parents/carers to use.
- Staff will monitor pupils' adherence to the uniform policy on a daily basis.
- Any uniform-related issues will be addressed in a sensitive and supportive manner, considering the individual circumstances of the pupil.
- Persistent or serious breaches of the uniform policy will be dealt with in accordance with the school's behaviour policy.
- The school will maintain a record of any uniform-related issues and the actions taken to address them.
- The SLT will regularly monitor the effectiveness of the uniform policy and make any necessary adjustments.

6. Consequences of Non-Compliance

- **Minor Infringements:** Pupils will be reminded of the uniform policy and asked to rectify the issue where possible (e.g., removing jewellery).
- **Repeated Infringements:** Parents/carers will be contacted to discuss the issue and find a solution.
- **Serious Infringements:** Pupils may be subject to consequences in accordance with the school's behaviour policy.
- Any necessary amendments to the policy will be made and communicated to all stakeholders.

7. Communication

- This policy will be readily available on the school website.



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- Parents/carers will receive a copy of the policy upon their child's admission to the school.
- The policy will be discussed with pupils during form time.
- Staff will receive training on the implementation of the policy.
- Any questions or concerns about the policy should be directed to the year manager.

8. Related Policies

- Behaviour Policy
- Safeguarding Policy
- Equality and Diversity Policy
- SEND Policy
- Health and Safety Policy

9. Additional Considerations for The Holden School

- **Trauma-Informed Approach:** Given the high proportion of pupils with SEMH needs and experiences of trauma, staff will adopt a trauma-informed approach when addressing uniform-related issues. This means being sensitive to pupils' emotional state and avoiding punitive measures that may trigger negative reactions.
- **Therapeutic Interventions:** Where appropriate, pupils may be offered therapeutic interventions (e.g., art therapy, drama therapy, OT) to help them process any emotional distress related to uniform-related issues.
- **Collaboration with Clinical Services:** The school will work closely with its clinical services team (psychotherapist, therapists) to support pupils with complex needs related to the uniform policy.