

BELLINGHAM

PARTNERSHIP OF SCHOOLS

Uniform Policy

2026-27



Approved by:	Governors	Date:	September 2026
Last review date:	December 2025	Next review date:	September 2027
Policy applies to:	Bellingham Primary School	Yes	Bellingham Middle School Yes

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
- Clarify our expectations for school uniform in our schools.

2. Legal duties under the Equality Act 2010

The Equality Act 2010 prohibits discrimination against an individual based on the protected characteristics, which include age, sex, disability, race, religion or belief, pregnancy and maternity and gender reassignment. To avoid discrimination, our schools 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 in the same school.
- Allow all pupils to have long hair, though we reserve the right to ask for this to be tied back.
- Allow all pupils to style their hair in a way that is appropriate for school and makes them feel most comfortable.
- Allow pupils to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons or if they are experiencing discomfort related to their sex, gender or gender reassignment.
- Allow pupils to wear headscarves and/or other religious garments.
- Allow pupils with sensory or physical needs to make reasonable adaptations to their uniform depending on their specific needs.
- Allow for reasonable adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking pupils or their parents/carers to get in touch with the Executive Headteacher who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests. These will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

3. Limiting the cost of school uniform

Our Partnership has a duty to ensure that the uniform we require in our schools 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 and provides the best value for money for parents/carers.

We will carefully consider what items require distinctive characteristics (such as a school logo) and limit these. We will avoid specific requirements for items that pupils could wear on non-school days, such as coats, bags and shoes. We will avoid different uniform requirements for different years or houses, and avoid different uniform

requirements for extra-curricular activities. We will provide an opportunity for pre-worn uniforms to be acquired by parents/carers, and will avoid frequent changes to specifications to minimise the financial impact on parents/carers of any changes.

We will carefully consult with parents/carers on any proposed significant changes to the uniform policy and carefully consider any complaints about the policy.

4. Expectations for school uniform

4.1 Bellingham Primary School

At Bellingham Primary School we have a standard uniform for children which we encourage them to wear. Our uniform comprises:

- Grey or black trousers / skirts / shorts / pinafore;
- White long or short sleeved blouse / polo shirt
- Navy blue jumper / sweatshirt / cardigan / hoody
- Plain, dark coloured school shoes or trainers
- During the summer months, school summer dresses are permitted in blue.

Sweatshirts, hoodies, cardigans, jackets and book bags with our school logo are available from the suppliers below.

Our PE kit, which should be worn to school on PE days instead of normal uniform, comprises:

- Shorts / jogging bottoms
- T-shirt
- Sandshoes or trainers

We request that all uniform, PE kits, outdoor coats and bags are labelled with the child's name.

The wearing of jewellery, especially earrings, are not allowed because of the possible danger to the wearer and to other pupils. The school accepts no responsibility for the safekeeping of any watches or jewellery.

4.2 Bellingham Middle School

At Bellingham Middle School we have a standard uniform for children which encourages them to look smart and tidy, and to take pride in their appearance. Our uniform is practical, smart and comfortable, and comprises:

- Red, round necked sweatshirt with school logo
- White polo shirt
- Black school skirt or trousers (not leggings, denim, skinny or tight-fitting styles)
- Black polishable school shoes (not canvas or trainers)
- Black or white socks / black tights

Our PE kit, which should be brought to school to change into on days where PE is part of the pupil's timetable, comprises:

- Red polo shirt / round-necked sweatshirt / rugby shirt
- Black shorts
- Plain black tracksuit bottoms or sports leggings
- Trainers and socks
- Football boots may be worn for appropriate sporting activities.

Pupils in Middle School are not permitted to wear make-up of any kind, which includes nail varnish.

A single set of plain stud earrings may be worn. These must be removed for PE.

Watches may be worn, but smart watches may not be worn. Any smart watches should be handed in each morning along with the child's phone.

We request that all uniform, PE kits, outdoor coats and bags are labelled with the child's name.

4.3 Where to buy school uniform

Parents/carers can obtain uniform from a variety of sources. Items that include school logos can be purchased from our school uniform suppliers:

Bellingham Primary School:

Emblematic <https://studentuniform.co.uk/bellps189/>

BE Uniform <https://www.border-embroideries.co.uk/schools/bellingham-first-school.html>

Bellingham Middle School:

Emblematic <https://studentuniform.co.uk/bellms188/>

5. Review

The governing body will review this policy and make sure that it:

- Is appropriate for our schools' contexts
- Is implemented fairly
- Takes into account the views of parents/carers and pupils
- Offers a uniform that is appropriate, practical and safe for all pupils

The Board will also make sure that the schools uniform supplier arrangements are tested for cost and value for money on a regular basis.