



**School uniform policy**  
**DISS HIGH SCHOOL**



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## 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

## 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, 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
- › 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 the way that is appropriate for school yet makes them feel most comfortable
- › Allow pupils to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons
- › Allow pupils to wear headscarves and other religious or cultural symbols
- › Allow for adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking pupils or their parents to get in touch with Mr Lea 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 understand that items with distinctive characteristics (such as branded items, or items that have to have a school logo or a unique fabric/colour/design) cannot be purchased from a wide range of retailers and that requiring many such items limits parents' ability to 'shop around' for a low price.

We will make sure our uniform:

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

We will do this by:

- › Carefully considering whether any items with distinctive characteristics are necessary
- › Limiting any items with distinctive characteristics where possible
- › Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost or long-lasting items
- › Considering cheaper alternatives to school-branded items, as long as this doesn't compromise quality and durability
- › Keeping the number of optional branded items to a minimum, so that the school's uniform can act as a social leveler
- › Avoiding different uniform requirements for different year groups
- › Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities

- › Using alternative methods for signaling differences in groups for interschool competitions
- › Making sure that arrangements are in place for parents to acquire second-hand uniform items
- › Avoiding frequent changes to uniform specifications and minimising the financial impact on parents of any changes
- › Consulting with parents and pupils on any proposed significant changes to the uniform policy and carefully considering any complaints about the policy

## 4. Expectations for school uniform

### 4.1 Our school's uniform

We see the school uniform as an aid to generating a purposeful and disciplined spirit in the attitudes of students as well as a pride in the School. Parents who choose to send their children to Diss High School are deemed to support the School Uniform Policy.

The principal items of uniform are available from [www.yourschoolwear.co.uk](http://www.yourschoolwear.co.uk).

The Governing Body has agreed the following.

- ❖ All students in Year 7 to 11 are required to wear School Uniform and to present themselves in a neat and tidy fashion at all times.
- ❖ No jewellery (apart from one stud per ear). Other forms of visible 'body piercing' are specifically forbidden.
- ❖ Style/colour of hair must not be taken to extremes.
- ❖ Leather and denim jackets are not regarded as appropriate outdoor wear, neither are casual shirts, training or hooded tops, or cardigans. Outdoor wear should be weatherproof. Garments carrying slogans or drawings, which the School deems offensive, are forbidden (e.g., racist or drugs related). Baseball caps may not be worn.  
*(Generally, outdoor garments should be of the kind that zip or button up the front and be free of very large slogans, brand names, decorations etc. Sober colours are preferred and lightweight training tops or other flimsy garments are really not suitable; the idea is to protect children from the cold and wet, not to allow them to wear the latest fashion garments around the buildings. We would appreciate the support of parents in this.)*
- ❖ All extremes of fashion should be avoided and the School reserves the right to decide what constitutes a breach of School Uniform.
- ❖ Make-up: Years 7-11 - No Make Up Permitted.

#### SUMMARY OF SCHOOL UNIFORM

- ❖ Navy blue official school polo shirt.
- ❖ Navy blue official school V-necked sweater. The wearing of sweaters is compulsory after autumn half term holiday until Easter and optional thereafter (weather dependant).
- ❖ Plain graphite grey full-length trousers for boys and girls (which are purchased through Anglia Sports and School wear). No other style of trouser, such as very tight or very flared, are acceptable and neither

are denim, cord or casual style trousers. Accessories such as buttons, studs and other decorative details on the trousers are unacceptable.

- ❖ Plain black or grey socks.
- ❖ Plain black leather shoes. Trainers with logos, backless or platform shoes, open sandals or shoes with heels exceeding 2 inches (5cm) are not permitted. Where injuries to feet prevent the wearing of normal school shoes, students are expected to wear the regulation plimsolls, which are loaned, by the school.

PLEASE ENSURE ALL ITEMS ARE LABELLED WITH YOUR CHILD'S NAME.

#### PHYSICAL EDUCATION KIT

##### Compulsory for ALL students

- ❖ Diss High School unisex PE polo shirt\* or Diss High School girls PE polo shirt\*
- ❖ Trainers (non-marking soles) NOT plimsolls
- ❖ White ankle sport socks
- ❖ Plain navy shorts
- ❖ Diss High School sports socks\*
- ❖ Hockey or football boots

##### Optional kit for all students

- ❖ Plain, navy tracksuit bottoms or leggings
- ❖ Mouth guards and shin pads are strongly recommended

##### Compulsory kit for BOYS

- ❖ Diss High School boys rugby shirt\*

##### Compulsory kit for GIRLS

- ❖ Diss High School girls' sports top\* (long-sleeved)

We recommend that students shower after physical activity, but this is not compulsory. Additionally, all students in appropriate weather may wear sun hats.

- ❖ \*This kit MUST be ordered from Anglia Sports & Schoolwear Ltd at [www.yourschoolwear.co.uk](http://www.yourschoolwear.co.uk).

ALL KIT MUST BE NAMED WITH INDELIBLE MARKING

## 4.2 Second hand uniform and subsidised uniform

The school is able to make second hand uniform available on request. Eligible parents may request support from the school with purchasing uniform .

## **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
- Travelling to and from school
- 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 also expected to contact the Headteacher if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to their protected characteristics.

### **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

Parents are also expected to contact the Headteacher if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to:

- Their child's protected characteristics
- The cost of the uniform

Parents are expected to lodge any complaints or objections relating to the school uniform in a timely and reasonable manner.

Disputes about the cost of the school uniform will be:

- Resolved locally
- Dealt with in accordance with our school's complaints policy

The school will work closely with parents to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.

### **5.3 Staff**

Staff will closely monitor pupils to make sure they are in correct uniform. They will give any pupils and families breaching the uniform policy the opportunity to comply, but will follow up with the headteacher if the situation doesn't improve.

Ongoing breaches of our uniform policy will be dealt with by liaison with parents.

In cases where it is suspected that financial hardship has resulted in a pupil not complying with this uniform policy, staff will take a mindful and considerate approach to resolving the situation.

### **5.4 Governors**

The governing board 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

The board will also make sure that the school's uniform supplier arrangements give the highest priority to cost and value for money, for example by avoiding single supplier contracts and by re-tendering contracts at least every 5 years.

## **6. Monitoring arrangements**

This policy will be reviewed annually.

## **7. Links to other policies**

This policy is linked to our:

- › Behaviour policy
- › Equality information and objectives statement
- › Anti-bullying policy
- › Complaints policy