



# Willingdon

## COMMUNITY SCHOOL

### **SCHOOL UNIFORM POLICY**

### **Appendix – PE Uniform Policy**

### **2024-2025**

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**Updated: May 2025**

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**Staff Responsible:**  
**N. Townsend-Smith / C. Attrill (PE Uniform Policy)**

**Link Governor:**  
**Chair of Governors**

# **UNIFORM POLICY**

## **Principles**

School uniform:

- Promotes a sense of pride in the school.
- Establishes a sense of community and belonging towards the school.
- Is affordable, practical and smart, preparing students for the world of work.
- Promotes equality (please see Equalities statement).

School uniform plays a valuable role in contributing to the ethos of a school and setting an appropriate tone. A uniform supports positive behaviour and discipline; ensures students of all backgrounds feel equal; protects children from social pressures to dress in a particular way; nurtures cohesion and promotes good relations between different groups of students. Willingdon Community School also recognises the need to support students develop sensible habits of dress and prepare for the world of work.

## **Our Vision Statement**

### **We are Willingdon**

We are a united, vibrant community which demonstrates personal excellence in all that we do. Learning at Willingdon transforms lives by igniting curiosity and expecting the very best from staff and students alike. We value opportunities, aiming for success today to prepare for challenges and opportunities tomorrow. We are respectful, honest and courteous to empower each other on our unique learning journeys. We look after ourselves and each other, and show empathy, respect and compassion to all people and our environment along the way. We encourage tolerance, resilience and reflection, which in turn allows everyone to make progress every lesson. We work together as a harmonious community to be the very best versions of ourselves.

### **This makes us Willingdon**

### **Willingdon Community School Ethos:**

At Willingdon Community School, we aim to develop Personal Excellence in all our students. Personal Excellence comprises five key values and behaviours:

#### **Ambition**

To strive to do your best on all occasions. Take on new challenges and challenge yourself to reach the highest possible standards and be personally successful.

#### **Respect**

To respect and value all members of our community, recognising and celebrating our differences. Respect ourselves, valuing what we can each bring to our community.

## **Compassion**

Understand the needs of others and support those who sometimes need our help. Contribute to charitable work which supports those less well-off in the world.

## **Courtesy**

Be well mannered in all situations, displaying the basic courtesies that we all value. Greet those you work with regularly; be particularly welcoming and polite to visitors and show appreciation for those who support and work closely with you.

## **Honesty**

Always be honest, even when it may appear difficult. Be honest to yourself - know your strengths and your weaknesses.

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When students join Willingdon Community School, we establish our expectations that all students adhere to the uniform rules and that parents/carers support this. We will seek to support all who are suffering financial hardship and the child's Head of Year (HOY) should be contacted in the first instance when this is the case.

**There are only 3 expected Willingdon branded items, plus the Willingdon tie, (the Blazer, the PE T-Shirt and the PE shorts) to keep the uniform affordable for all.**

**Furthermore, we offer parents a swap shop for the essential branded items and there is no cost for any of these items in stock. [uniformswap@willingdonschool.org.uk](mailto:uniformswap@willingdonschool.org.uk)**

## **Willingdon Community School Uniform**

The school uniform is in keeping with modern school dress codes and allows our students to feel smart and proud of our school.



We regularly seek parent and student feedback on the dress code, and where feasible, adjustments are made, for example to reflect diversity and maintain financial affordability for all.

**The school tie and the 3 items in bold below are the only Willingdon, branded essential items.**

**Uniform details:**

- **A Willingdon Community School tie.**
- **A black Willingdon Community School blazer.**
- **Willingdon Community School PE Branded Black Polo Shirt.**
- **Willingdon Community School PE Branded Shorts.**
- A pencil (approx. 22 inches, no split and this must not be a stretchy tube skirt) or a pleated skirt. Black knee length tailored shorts or regulation trousers.
- A plain white shirt.
- Plain black shoes, leather or leather look (no Nike Air or any other branded black leather trainers), with flat or low heels worn with black, white or grey plain socks or black/natural coloured tights. Socks must be below knee length.
- A black V neck plain jumper, unbranded may be worn under the school blazer but not in place of the blazer.
- A school bag suitable for carrying school equipment and books.

**We aim for our uniform to reflect a professional dress code at all times. The final judgements regarding acceptable uniform and appearance will be made by the Senior Leadership Team.**

School Skirts/Trousers or Tailored shorts

Students will wear the black pleated or pencil regulation skirt, school regulation trousers, or tailored shorts. The skirt and shorts should be approximately at knee length or just above and no tube skirts, or skirts with splits are acceptable. Skirts must be worn as they are designed to be worn. Shorts must be smart, tailored and unbranded. This excludes branded chino, denim, or any canvas variety. The wearing of shorts does not permit the students to wear casual versions of the uniform and the rest of the items must be worn.

New Regulation Pencil Skirt



New Tailored Shorts



### **School Blazer – Essential branded item**

Students should wear the school blazer daily and it should be worn at the start of the school day and at the start/end of each lesson. Students should ask a teacher if they can remove their blazer if they are too warm. We will relax the blazer rule normally in Term 6 with the expected heat, but a jumper must not replace the blazer.

### **Shoes**

Students must wear proper shoes with black shoelaces, or Velcro, not trainers/pumps, other than in PE when trainers are of course required. Mules are not allowed as they are dangerous in workshops, Science labs and on stairs.

Students may change into trainers outside at break time only if they are actively playing sport, but change back into shoes for lesson 3 and lesson 5.

Students must arrive at school in shoes and will be asked by staff on duty to change if they are wearing trainers.

Students are only allowed to wear plain black trainers to lessons if they have a medical reason for this and have a letter from their parents/medical professional explaining this.

### **Socks/Tights**

Plain black, white or grey socks may be worn and these must not come above the knee. Tights must be plain black or flesh coloured. It is not permissible to wear black tights with coloured or white socks over the tights.

### **Black Jumpers**

A plain V neck jumper may be worn under the school blazer, this must be unbranded. The jumper should not replace the school blazer and be the first item to be removed when a student is too warm. Students will be discouraged from wearing these in the summer months.

### **Coats**

Students may wear any coats. Knitted woollen jackets will be treated as cardigans. Coats may not be worn in lessons and students are expected to take them off rather than wait to be asked.

Hoodies are not acceptable and are not to be worn at any point on school grounds. They will be immediately confiscated if seen.

### **Ties – Essential branded item**

A Willingdon Community School tie should be worn. Students can wear either coloured tie and are only expected to purchase one in their time at Willingdon. We have removed the differentiation between Key Stage ties to prevent additional costs for parents.

### **Jewellery**

Students are allowed to wear one plain flat ring and up to two small stud earrings in each ear. Hoops, drop earrings, large studs that extend beyond the ear lobe or expanders are not allowed. Students

previously registered as a Traveller or Romany or any other religions which require girls to do so, are allowed to wear gold or silver hoop earrings in accordance with their cultural traditions, along with one necklace and one bracelet. This does not include facial piercings or retainers of any kind, including tongue piercing. The school takes the view that facial piercings can be dangerous and easily become infected.

No necklaces/jewellery can be worn. Necklaces worn for medical or religious purposes may be worn if the student is registered as following the faith. Sentimental items of jewellery should be carried in pouches in their school bag (the school will happily provide the pouch), however, students will be responsible for these and are encouraged to keep such items at home.

No bracelets may be worn, unless for medical or cultural reasons (see previous information relation to bracelets).

### Scarves & Hats

Students are allowed to wear scarves outside during break times for warmth, but they are not allowed to wear these in classrooms or as fashion accessories. Hats or caps must not be worn indoors at all.

### Makeup

Students are allowed to wear makeup but it must be subtle. Anyone wearing very bold makeup will be asked to remove it. Lashes must look natural and any excessive false lashes will need to be removed. This is at the discretion of the staff. False nails or Acrylics etc. should not be worn to school and nails should be finger length to ensure they are safe for practical learning. Nail varnish is allowed.

### Breaches of School Uniform Rules

As far as possible any breaches of school uniform rules will be addressed by the article being confiscated or the student changing into borrowed items. Occasionally, a student will be sent home to change and this is marked as an authorised absence unless the student does not come back to school within a reasonable time. Parents will always be contacted before a student is sent home.

Where neither of these courses of action are possible, a student will lose their unstructured time as a consequence. A student may be internally suspended with a member of staff until the uniform policy is adhered to for a persistent breach or spent time in our internal suspension room.

If a student persistently defies the uniform expectation or refuses to cooperate with any of the above strategies, they may receive an internal sanction such as detention or a day in the internal suspension room or a fixed term suspension. Persistent defiance will be addressed using the school behaviour policy.

All details regarding breaches in the uniform policy will be logged on Arbor and communicated to parents. Where persistent issues occur students may be requested to wear alternatives.

On the days that students have a PE lesson they may wear their PE kit to attend the entire school day. The students will need to follow the uniform policy from the PE department as detailed below.

## **Appendix A**

### **Policy on PE Kit & Participation**

#### **PE Kit**

Students are expected to wear their PE kit to school on the days that they have core PE (twice a week). If they forget their kit, they will be issued with a lunch time detention. KS4 students who study PE or Dance as an option should wear their uniform to school and bring their full PE kit every lesson.

In the PE department, we feel that the PE uniform plays an important role in promoting the ethos of the school. The PE uniform:

- Promotes a sense of pride
- Creates a sense of community and belonging
- Is practical and smart for sporting purposes
- Identifies the student with the school
- Is fair and consistent makes students feel equal to their peers.

The PE Department will endeavour to deliver all outdoor PE lessons even in bad weather, unless unsafe to do so.

We aim to set a high standard of kit for our pupils and feel there is enough flexibility within the ranges available to provide a choice as to how these standards are met.

#### **Indoors -**

- **Willingdon Community School PE Branded Black Polo Shirt – Essential branded item (the swap shop can provide a free PE shirt if available)**
- **Willingdon Community School PE Branded Shorts – Essential branded item (the swap shop can provide a free PE shorts if available)**
- Plain black track suit bottoms / sports leggings with no branding. (Durable material)
- Clean, indoor non-marking trainers (except for Dance/Gymnastics where bare feet are required)

**Outdoors** - As above, plus the following are also recommended for inclement weather:

- Willingdon Community School PE Branded waterproof fleece lined jacket/tracksuit jacket (optional)
- Willingdon Community School PE Branded black sweatshirt (optional).
- Plain black long sleeve base layer (to be worn underneath Polo Shirt). No leg base layers.
- Studded football boots.
- Socks (spare pair).
- Towel to dry off in case of rain.
- Bag to put dirty kit.
- It is recommended that pupils are prepared with indoor kit should the weather or conditions be unsafe to go outside, and an indoor area has to be used.

**The following items of clothing are not permitted in PE lessons:**

- School uniform (blazers/ jumpers/ trousers/ shirts/ tights).
- Hooded/ branded tops and other sports jumpers/ jackets of any kind.
- Canvas or baseball shoes of any kind or mid / high top basketball trainers.
- The old-style navy PE top and old style PE grey jumper are no longer acceptable PE kit from September 2021.
- Tights.
- Fashion/branded leggings, grey/navy trousers or bottoms of any kind.

School kit is available from Reception and <https://willingdonschool.org.uk/parents/uniform>

If students are unable to fully participate in the lesson, an email or written note (signed and dated) from parents/carers is required prior to the lesson. The child is still expected to arrive to the lesson wearing their full PE kit. Students are expected to have their full name written/sewn into all items to ensure they can be returned if misplaced.

We have worked very hard to create a culture where the pupils at this school value PE. Even when pupils are injured or not feeling well, students will have the opportunity to take part by other means.

#### Forgotten/Inappropriate kit

If students forget kit, they should report to their PE teacher as soon as possible.

If you forget kit, this will be viewed as failing to turn up to class with the appropriate materials.

If a student forgets their kit, this will be logged on Arbor, and a lunch-time detention will be issued.

For students who persistently forget their kit or wear inappropriate kit they will be required to attend a meeting with parents and PE Department for an opportunity to discuss organisational challenges you might be facing and potential solutions.

#### Jewellery / Hair / Chewing gum/ Valuables

On grounds of health and safety, no jewellery should be worn during PE. Long hair should be tied back.

Chewing gum is not allowed in school and PE lessons are no exception.

PE Staff will lock the changing rooms during lesson times, however, a pupil bringing any valuables (jewellery/watches/electronic devices) to school is responsible for its care and usage at all times. It is, in the end, a choice to bring mobile phones/wear these items to school, and as such, the PE Department cannot accept any responsibility for damage or loss of any valuable.

All items of clothing must, in the school's judgement, be appropriate for use in school.

We reserve the right to forbid any items of clothing or jewellery which are inappropriate or are likely to infringe health and safety regulations.

Further details on school Uniform Policy and PE Uniform Policy can all be viewed on our school website. Please see below pictures of the PE uniform.





### Optional PE Jumper



### Optional Outside PE Jackets

PE Tracksuit Jacket



PE Fleece Lined Showerproof Jacket (In Black)

