Minute no. FG/26/120 Approved 21st September 2026 Next review September 2027

Long Row Primary School

School Uniform Policy

This policy is in line with the DfE's statutory 'Cost of school uniforms' guidance. Schools are expected to be compliant with the majority of this guidance by September 2023; however, there are exceptions, such as where the school is tied into a contract with a supplier and where a competitive tender must be run to set up a new uniform contract. All schools should be fully compliant by September 2024 where possible. Read our Up-to-speed on: Statutory 'Cost of school uniforms' Guidance for more information.

Approved by Chair of Governors: _____ Date: _____

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Statement of intent

Long Row Primary School believes that a consistent school uniform policy is vital to promote the ethos of the school and provide a sense of belonging and identity for all pupils, regardless of their protected characteristics or socio-economic circumstances.

For the purposes of this policy, **"uniform"** includes the following elements of pupils' appearance:

- Clothing, including the school uniform itself, variations of the school uniform such as PE kits, and other clothing worn at school, e.g. non-uniform and school book bags
- Hairstyles and headwear.
- Jewellery and other accessories
- Cosmetics such as makeup and nail polish.

This policy lays out the measures the school has taken to ensure a consistent, fair and inclusive uniform policy, and to implement a uniform that reflects the needs of all pupils, is affordable, and provides the best value for money for both the school and pupils' families.

We believe that pupils learn most effectively and achieve their best outcomes when they are comfortable, able to be themselves, and dressed in a way that sets an appropriate tone for education.

1. Legal framework

This policy has due regard to all relevant legislation and guidance including, but not limited to, the following:

- Human Rights Act 1998
- Education and Inspections Act 2006
- Equality Act 2010
- Education Act 2022
- The UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR)
- Data Protection Act 2018
- Education (Guidance about Costs of School Uniforms) Act 2021
- DfE (2021) 'Cost of school uniforms'
- DfE (2021) 'School Admissions Code'
- DfE (2021) 'School uniforms'
- Equality and Human Rights Commission (2022) 'Preventing hair discrimination in schools'

This policy operates in conjunction with the following school policies:

- Complaints Procedures Policy
- Behaviour Policy
- Pupil Equality, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Policy
- LGBTQ+ Policy
- Tendering and Procurement Policy

2. Roles and responsibilities

The governing board is responsible for:

- Establishing, in consultation with the headteacher and school community, a practical and smart school uniform that accurately reflects the school's vision and values.
- Ensuring that the school's uniform is accessible, inclusive, and does not disadvantage any pupil because of their protected characteristics or socio-economic status.
- Listening to the opinions and wishes of parents, pupils and the wider school community regarding changes to the school's uniform.
- Ensuring that the school's uniform is accessible and affordable.
- Demonstrating in this policy how best value for money has been achieved.
- Ensuring compliance with the DfE's 'Cost of school uniforms' guidance.
- Processing and approving all eligible School Uniform Assistance Application Forms.

The headteacher is responsible for:

- Enforcing the school's uniform rules on a day-to-day basis.
- Ensuring that teachers understand this policy and what to do if a pupil is in breach of the policy.

- Listening to the opinions and wishes of the school community in regard to the school's uniform and making appropriate recommendations to the governing board.
- Providing pupils with an exemption letter as appropriate, e.g. for a pupil who has a broken arm and requires a loose-fitting shirt.

Staff are responsible for:

- Ensuring that pupils dress in accordance with this policy at all times.
- Where appropriate to their role, disciplining pupils who are in breach of this policy.
- Ensuring that pupils understand why having a consistent and practical school uniform is important, e.g. school identity.

Parents are responsible for:

- Providing their children with the correct school uniform as detailed in this policy.
- Informing the headteacher if their child requires an exemption to the uniform rules for a period of time, with a reason why.
- Ensuring that their child's uniform is clean, presentable and the correct size.

Pupils are responsible for:

- Wearing the correct uniform at all times, unless the headteacher has granted an exemption.
- Looking after their uniform as appropriate.
- Understanding and respecting why a school uniform is important to the school, e.g. school identity and community.

3. Cost principles

The school will ensure that its school uniform is affordable and accessible to all pupils, and does not place an unreasonable financial burden on parents.

In accordance with the 'School Admissions Code', the headteacher will ensure that the school's uniform requirements do not discourage parents from applying for a place for their child.

The school will assess the overall cost implications of its uniform policy regularly, including prior to making any changes to the school uniform. When evaluating whether costs are reasonable and proportionate, the school will take account the opinions and situations of:

- Economically disadvantaged parents.
- Parents with multiple children who are, or will be in the future, pupils at the school.
- Parents of younger children, as they are likely to grow quickly and require new sets of uniform more frequently.
- Parents of pupils with protected characteristics that may impact their ability to access the uniform.
- LAC and PLAC.

The school will evaluate the cost of its uniform based on the overall collection of uniform items that parents would need to purchase for a pupil, rather than on the cost effectiveness of individual items; this will include consideration of the fact that parents will need to purchase multiples of certain items, e.g. shirts and socks, to ensure their child can come to school in clean uniform every day.

The school will keep variations in school uniform for different groups of pupils, e.g. year group specific items or house colours, to a minimum to ensure that pupils can get the most wear out of their uniform and that parents can pass some items down to younger siblings.

The school will keep branded uniform items to a minimal level that is reasonable for all members of the school community. The school defines a branded uniform item as any item of clothing that cannot be purchased at a range of retailers, e.g. supermarkets, due to the item's logo, colour, design, fabric or other unique element. Where the school requires an item of branded clothing, it will assess how prices can be kept as low as possible and put measures in place to facilitate this. This may include:

- Offering sew- or iron-on logo patches for blazers and jumpers that can be bought at non-specialist retailers, instead of requiring specific branded jumpers.
- Ensuring branded items are longer-lasting and unlikely to be grown out of quickly, e.g. ties.
- Making donated second-hand uniform available for purchase at a lower price.

The school will meet the DfE's requirements and recommendations on costs and value for money. Care will be taken to ensure that school uniform is affordable for all current and prospective pupils, and that the best value for money is secured through reputable suppliers.

The school will work with multiple suppliers to obtain the best value for money possible. Any savings negotiated will be passed to parents where possible. The school will not enter into exclusive single-supplier contracts or cash-back arrangements. More information on supplier processes can be found in the 'School uniform supplier' section of this policy.

The school will not make frequent changes to uniform requirements and will take the views of parents and pupils into account when considering any changes.

4. Equality principles

The school takes its legal obligation to avoid unlawfully discriminating against any protected characteristic very seriously. In line with this, the school will aim to ensure that its uniform policy is as inclusive as possible so that all pupils can access a school uniform which is comfortable, suitable for their needs, and reflects who they are, while avoiding any direct or indirect discrimination on the basis of protected characteristics or socio-economic status.

The school will ensure that parents and pupils are consulted over any changes to school uniform, and that, where appropriate and with pupils' consent, views and advice are sought specifically from pupils, and parents of pupils, who:

- Are transgender or non-binary.
- Are of a religious or cultural background that has specific dress requirements.
- Have SEND and/or sensory needs.

Parents' concerns and requests regarding school uniform and amendments to it are handled on a case-by-case basis by the headteacher and governing board, and always in accordance with the school's Complaints Procedures Policy.

Information on how the school ensures its uniform policy does not discriminate against pupils with specific protected characteristics is outlined below.

Gender

To avoid disproportionately impacting pupils of a certain gender, the school will ensure that the cost of uniform is as equal in price as possible across items for all genders.

This includes:

- Adhering to the procedures laid out in the 'Cost principles' section of this policy.
- Not directly requiring pupils of a certain gender to buy additional uniform, e.g. by requiring female pupils to buy both trousers and skirts.
- Not indirectly requiring pupils of a certain gender to buy additional uniform, e.g. by offering football in PE to only male pupils and requiring they buy football boots to participate.
- Not holding pupils of different genders to different uniform standards, e.g. by banning certain hairstyles for only one gender.

The school will implement a gender-neutral uniform, meaning that pupils will not be required to wear specific items based on their gender, and may wear any of the uniform items listed in the 'School uniform' section of this policy regardless of the legal sex recorded on the school's records. Transgender pupils are supported to access the uniform that best reflects their gender expression.

Religion and belief

To avoid disproportionately impacting pupils of a certain religion, belief or culture, the school will ensure that there is flexibility to allow pupils to present themselves in a way that adheres to their dress requirements as far as possible, within the school's uniform policy.

The school will endeavour to meet all requests for amendments to the uniform for these purposes; however, the needs and rights of individual pupils will be weighed against any health and safety concerns appropriate to the circumstances, e.g. if safety headgear needs to be worn.

Race

To avoid disproportionately impacting pupils of a certain race, the school will ensure that its uniform policy does not constitute unlawful indirect discrimination through blanket rules. This includes: • Not banning hairstyles related to a pupil's ethnic origin, e.g. natural Afro hairstyles.

- Not banning hairstyles worn because of cultural, family and social customs, e.g. cornrows.
- Not banning head coverings related to a pupil's culture or ethnic origin, e.g. African heritage head wraps.

The school will follow the good practice guidance provided by the Equality and Human Rights Commission on 'Preventing hair discrimination in schools'.

SEND and medical conditions

To avoid disproportionately impacting pupils with SEND or medical conditions, the school will ensure its uniform policy takes into account the needs of these pupils. This includes:

- Ensuring the school uniform uses soft, stretchy fabrics and avoids intricate buttons or hard seams.
- Allowing variations to the standard uniform for pupils whose medical conditions may impact how they dress, e.g. pupils with casts who require loose-fitting clothing or pupils with hair loss-related conditions who wish to wear head coverings.

Where the needs of these pupils cannot be met in the standard uniform policy, individual adaptations to the uniform will be considered and permitted wherever possible.

5. Complaints and challenges

The school will endeavour to resolve all uniform complaints and challenges locally and informally, in accordance with the school's Complaints Procedures Policy.

The school will refer individuals who wish to complain to the Complaints Procedures Policy and request that they follow the procedures outlined therein.

When a complaint is received, the school will work with the complainant to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.

6. School uniform supplier

The school's current school has two uniform suppliers they are :

- **Name of supplier – Loop Schoolwear**
- **Address of supplier 38 Factory Lane, Ilkeston DE7 8HQ •**

  Web – www.loopwear.shop

- **Name of supplier – School Trends**
- **Address of supplier**
- **9 Holbrook Enterprise Park, Enterprise Way, Sheffield S20 3GL**
- **Web – www.schooltrends.co.uk**

The governing board will ensure that a written contract is in place with the supplier for branded items. The school will retender the uniform contract every **five years**, whether changes to the uniform are made or not, in line with the Tendering and Procurement Policy.

The governing board will be able to demonstrate how uniform is procured at the best value for money. The headteacher will work to ensure that the items are procured as cheaply as possible without compromising on the quality, e.g. by requesting standard-style items from the supplier rather than more intricate and unique designs.

The school will not sign contracts with suppliers before requesting visualisations and samples of proposed uniform.

7. Uniform assistance

The school PTA will hold second-hand school uniforms on the playground for parents to access; access to these uniforms will be made available upon request made to the headteacher.

Parents will be invited to donate their child's uniform when they no longer need it.

In year transfers, who may need uniform quickly for their start date at school, may be offered unnamed lost property.

8. Non-compliance

Staff will be permitted to discuss with pupils any breach of this policy, where relevant to their role, in accordance with the school's Behaviour Policy.

Parents will be notified of pupils' breaches of school uniform in all cases and asked to rectify.

9. School uniform

Clothing

The school uniform is as follows:

Item	Optional or required	Branding	How to acquire	Cost per item from school supplier
Regular school uniform				
Navy blue sweatshirt, pullover or cardigan	Required	School logo Or Non branded	Branded sweatshirt and cardigan available from school supplier or secondhand from PTA sales. Navy sweatshirt or cardigan can be bought from regular retailers.	£11.25 - £12.25 N/A
White polo shirt	Required	School logo	Branded available from school supplier,	£7.15
		Or Non branded	second-hand from PTA sale. Can be bought from regular retailers.	N/A
Plain grey or black trousers, leggings or skirt	Required	Non branded	Second-hand from PTA sale and from regular retailers	N/A
Plain grey or black pinafore	Optional	Non branded	Second-hand from PTA sale and from regular retailers	N/A
Sensible, plain black shoes/trainers	Required	Non branded	Available from regular retailers	N/A
Navy or grey tights	Optional	Non branded	Available from regular retailers	N/A
White/grey/navy socks	Required	Non branded	Available from regular retailers	N/A

Warmer months Navy/White summer dress (Checked or striped.) Shorts (Black or grey)	Optional	Non branded	Available from regular retailers	N/A
PE kit				
Plain t-shirt House colour Red, White, Blue or Green	Required	No branding	Available from regular retailers	N/A
Plain black or grey joggers or shorts (warmer months)	Required	No branding	Available from regular retailers	N/A
Plain trainers (black or grey a small amount of white marking permitted)	Required	No branding	Available from regular retailers	N/A
Suitable for both indoor and outdoor PE				
Accessories				
School book bag	Required	School logo	Available from school supplier	£6.75

At all times, it is desirable that children should wear sensible shoes and clothes that are suitable for a day in school. It is necessary for the children to go out of doors to reach the hall for lunch and P.E; because of our unpredictable weather, a coat is almost always necessary

The school will not consider high heels suitable school shoes.

Parents are responsible for ensuring their child is in PE kit on the required days.

Parents are responsible for ensuring their child only brings a book bag to school.

As part of our ongoing work to reduce clutter in corridors and classrooms, improve health and safety, and make the best use of limited storage space, the school has introduced a phased withdrawal of pupil rucksacks.

- During the 2026-2027 academic year, pupils in Years 5 and 6 may bring a small rucksack to school.
- From September 2027, only pupils in Year 6 may bring a small rucksack to school.
- From September 2028, rucksacks will not be permitted for any pupils.

Pupils should use the school book bag or similar book bag for transporting books.

Nursery and Reception children should bring a named drawstring bag containing essential spare clothing, as directed by the school.

The school recognises that some pupils may require alternative arrangements due to a medical condition, disability or other exceptional circumstances. Requests for reasonable adjustments will be considered on an individual basis.

Jewellery

The school rules on jewellery are as follows:

- **One pair of stud earrings may be worn – no other piercings are permitted.**
- **A sensible wristwatch may be worn – NO smart watches are permitted**

Pupils will be advised that jewellery is their personal responsibility and not that of the school. Lost or damaged items will not be refunded. Jewellery must be removed for PE either at home or by the child. Staff are not allowed to tape up earrings or remove jewellery.

Hairstyles and headwear

The school reserves the right to make a judgement on whether a pupil's hairstyle, hair colour or headwear is inappropriate for the school environment; however, the school will ensure that any such judgements do not discriminate against any pupil by virtue of their protected characteristics. Each individual pupil's scenario will be taken into account where any judgements on appropriateness are to be made, and parents will always have the freedom to complain via the school's Complaints Procedures Policy.

Pupils with long hair must ensure that this does not impede their vision, cover their face, or cause a health and safety risk. Long hair must be tied up during practical lessons, e.g. during PE.

The following hairstyles, hair colours and headwear are not considered appropriate for school:

- **Brightly coloured dyed hair**
- **Headwear with bold patterns or colours**
- **Excessive hair accessories**
- **Headwear featuring inappropriate words or images**

Makeup and cosmetics

Make-up or nail varnish is not appropriate for school.

10. Adverse weather

All pupils will be advised to wear weather-appropriate clothing.

For hot temperatures, this includes wearing:

- **Tops that cover the shoulder area.**
- **Sunglasses with UV protection when outside.**
- **Sunhats**

Pupils will be advised not to wear any jumpers or blazers during heatwaves. If outside during break times, pupils not wearing sun-safe clothing will be advised to stay in an area protected from the sun.

For cold temperatures, this includes wearing:

- **Scarfs, gloves, coats and hats when outside.**
- **Trousers, or skirts and thick tights.**

11. Labelling and lost property

Parents will be advised to ensure that all pupils' clothing and footwear is clearly labelled with their name and year group.

Any lost clothing will be taken to the chair outside the school office and named items will be return to the children just before the end of the day. All unnamed lost property will be retained for **one month** and will be disposed of if it is not collected within this time.

12. Monitoring and review

This policy will be reviewed **annually** by the chair of governors and the headteacher. The next scheduled review date for this policy is **September 2027**.

Any changes to this policy will be communicated to all staff, pupils, parents and other relevant stakeholders.