Altwood
Church of England School

Uniform Policy
2026-27

John 10:10: ‘I have come that they may have life and live it to the full’

I am known, I am valued, I will succeed.

Approved by:	Headteacher	**Date:**	July 2026
Last reviewed on:	July 2026		
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Version:	5		
Changes	Updated information for Jewellery, Electronic Devices, (including smart watches and smart glasses) and Yondr pouches		

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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, particularly for PE and Science lessons)
- Allow all pupils to style their hair in the way that is appropriate for school yet makes them feel most comfortable. No extreme hairstyles or colours are permitted – this includes shaved in logos.
- 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 the Deputy Headteacher 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 must 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'/carers' 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, for example, by only asking that the blazer and the jumper feature the school logo and students have the option to choose **one** of these items. (note many items do not require a logo)
- Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost or long-lasting items, such as ties
- Avoiding specific requirements for items students could wear on non-school days, such as coats, bags and shoes
- Keeping the number of optional branded items to a minimum, so that the school's uniform can act as a social leveller
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for different year / class groups
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities
- Making sure that arrangements are in place for parents/carers to acquire second-hand uniform items
- Avoiding frequent changes to uniform specifications and minimising the financial impact on parents/carers of any changes
- Consulting with parents/carers and students 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 Uniform

Coat or Anorak:	Should be protective and big enough to go over the complete uniform. Hoodies are not to be worn. No outer garments should be worn during lesson time.
Blazer: **AND/OR** Jumper:	Regulation blazer, including appropriate House badge. Regulation Jumper, including appropriate House badge
Shoes:	All black shoes. Should be waterproof. Boots or canvas shoes should not be worn.
Socks/Tights:	Plain black socks (no logos). Black or skin-toned tights for girls. Patterned tights are not acceptable.
Shirt:	Plain white and able to be tucked in
Tie:	Regulation pattern, compulsory for boys

Skirt:	Years 7 to 11 – Black box pleat skirt. No other styles to be worn (except legacy Altwood skirts for existing pupils). The length of the skirt should be no shorter than the students fingertips when arms are by their side.
Trousers:	Plain black. These should be plain and a tailored fit. Fashion trousers, leggings, hipsters, bootleg, tight fitting/skinny fit, denim, cord or trousers with extra pockets are **not** acceptable. *Plain black tailored 'School Shorts' can be worn in the summer terms. (No cargo style or sports shorts)
Yondr Pouch	Years 7 to 11 – all students should purchase a school Yondr pouch from the school office. These pouches are £15.00 and should last the duration of their time at Altwood. 'no-phone' cards can be obtained through the office – parents must complete an on-line form guaranteeing that the student's phone is left at home every day.

4.2 Our PE Kit

ALL:	Regulation black 'Altwood' badged top, Plain black athletic shorts, Black sports socks, Black and green football socks Training shoes and football boots. Gum shields and shin pads will need to be worn for contact sports.
Optional All:	All black tracksuit bottoms. (No branding / logos) Altwood Green and black leggings (No other leggings are acceptable) ¼ zip Altwood badged training top

4.3 Where to purchase it

Uniform can be purchased from the following retailers:

Goyals, 28 Bridge Street, Maidenhead, SL6 8BJ
t: 01628 639725
www.goyalmaidenhead.co.uk
Altwood School Uniforms by Goyals School Wear Suppliers in Maidenhead
goyalsmaidenhead.co.uk)

School Days Direct, 20A Buckingham Avenue, Slough Trading Estate, Slough, SL1 4QA
t: 01628 665353
www.schooldaysdirect.co.uk
www.schooldaysdirect.co.uk/product-category/school-uniform

All non-branded items: trousers, skirts, shirts, PE shorts, jogging bottoms, shoes, etc, can be purchased from any high street store.

The school holds a small selection of 'pre-loved' uniform that is readily available for purchase at very reasonable prices. Equally, we are very happy to support with the financial cost of uniform if sizes are unavailable in our 'pre-loved' uniform section. Anyone who might want this support should contact the Finance Office. Families who are eligible for Pupil Premium support should contact the Finance Office.

4.4 Jewellery and Make up

Students may wear modest jewellery that does not distract from their learning and a wristwatch (not a "smart" watch). No 'Hoop' earrings are allowed for Health and Safety reasons. Nose studs are permitted but must be small in diameter (2mm) or a clear retaining stud must be worn. No further face piercings are allowed.

Make up, if worn, including eyelashes, should be appropriate for a school environment and so light and natural-looking. Nails should be of a practical length; false, gel and acrylic nails are not allowed due to the risk of injury to yourself or others and to enable all students to participate safely in PE and other practical subjects. They should not be painted**.**

4.5 We are a phone free school. Electronic devices, including mobile phones, and smart watches, are only allowed on the school site if, switched off at all times and inside their Yondr pouches. This includes both before and after school. Students seen or heard with their phones will have them confiscated for collection by parents or carers, as per the Behaviour for Learning Policy. Photography and audio and/or visual recording will not be tolerated. Headphones of any kind should be turn off (if applicable) and put away. **Smart Glasses are not allowed on school site.**

Students have access to a telephone in the case of an emergency at the School Office and must take responsibility for the safekeeping of their own phones and possessions.

N.B.
All clothes and equipment should be clearly marked with the owner's name. Whilst the School takes reasonable care to protect property, it cannot be held responsible for loss or damage. This is particularly relevant to any items of non-school uniform that may be worn. Parents/carers are advised to make their own insurance arrangements for property and for accidental injury.

5. Expectations for our School Community

5.1 Students

Students are expected to always wear the correct uniform (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/carers 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

5.3 Staff

Staff will closely monitor students to make sure they are in correct uniform. They will give any students and families breaching the uniform policy the opportunity to comply. Ongoing breaches of our uniform policy will be dealt with by the pastoral team.

In cases where it is suspected that financial hardship has resulted in a student not complying with this uniform policy, staff will take a mindful and considerate approach to resolving the situation. Staff will discuss any support with our inclusion lead.

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/carers and students
- Offers a uniform that is appropriate, practical and safe for all students

The Governing 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 by the Senior Leadership Team. At every review, it will be approved by the Local Governing Board.

This Policy to be reviewed July 2027