



George Eliot Academy

The best in everyone™

Part of United Learning

Uniform Policy

REVIEWED BY: United Learning

DATE REVIEWED: Summer 2025

DATE OF NEXT REVIEW: Summer 2026

1.Vision for uniform

At George Eliot Academy, we believe in creating a learning environment where every pupil has an equal opportunity to succeed. Our school uniform policy reflects our commitment to social justice and equity by removing barriers related to appearance and economic background. By wearing the same uniform, all pupils are empowered to focus on their education, build a sense of belonging, and thrive together as equals.

2.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

3.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 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 Miss Havard (Vice Principal), who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests

4.Limiting the cost of school uniform

Our school has a duty to make sure that the uniform we require is affordable and 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 items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost or long-lasting items, such as ties
- Considering cheaper alternatives to school-branded items, such as logos that can be ironed on, as long as this doesn't compromise
- quality and durability
- Avoiding specific requirements for items pupils could wear on non-school days, such as coats and bags.
- 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 groups
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities
- 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 moving forwards and carefully considering any complaints about the policy

5. Expectations for school uniform

Our school's uniform

It is important that parents and pupils are clear that the George Eliot Academy uniform is a requirement and that all pupils must meet these standards at all times.

Our uniform consists of smart trousers/skirt, shirt, tie and blazer, and encourages pupils to take great pride in their appearance. Pupils are expected to adhere to our uniform policy at all times, which consists of the following items:

Item	Compulsory or optional
Official school blazer	Compulsory
White shirt with long or short sleeves Must be tucked in and the top button must be done up	Compulsory
School tie	Compulsory
School V-neck jumper with green trim	Optional
Black tailored trousers Black tailored shorts (knee length) Trousers should be smart and business like Black pleated knee length school skirt	Either trousers or pleated skirt are compulsory
Tights—plain black opaque or flesh coloured Socks—plain black or white socks	Optional
Shoes—plain black school shoes, flat heeled Boots can be worn under trousers	Compulsory



Coat—Plain, full length coat or anorak. **No denim/leather or fur jackets**

School Bag—Backpack, must be big enough for A4 books. No Handbags are allowed

Jewellery—A watch, school badges, one small pair of plain ear studs (easily removable) may be worn and one bracelet. Any other facial piercings must be clear.

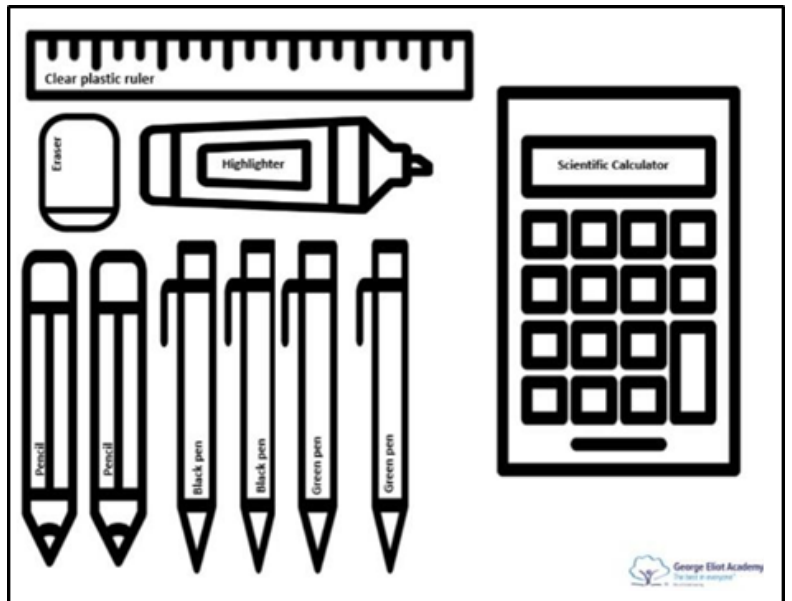
Hairstyles—Must be simple and only natural colours, no extreme hair styles, no patterns or shapes cut into it.

Make up – Pupils can wear discreet natural makeup. Eye lashes must be discreet and natural looking.

PE Item	Compulsory or optional
Sports polo top - black and green with school logo	Compulsory
Shorts - plain black(no cycling shorts) Track pants - plain black GEA leggings (optional)	Compulsory
School training top	Compulsory
Sports socks	Compulsory
Trainers (no fashion trainers, canvas or hi-tops)	Compulsory
Football boots	Optional



Pencil case
2 x black pens
2 x green pens
2 x pencils
Clear plastic ruler
Eraser
Highlighter
Scientific calculator - Casio FX83GT CW



Casio FX83GT CW Scientific Calculator

Uniform guidelines

If pupils arrive to school in incorrect uniform, they will be supported to correct their uniform. Failure to correct or borrow uniform will result in an escalation on the school's behaviour policy.

Trousers

Full length, smart, business length trousers. No jeans, jogging bottoms or leggings.

Skirts / Shorts

Black, pleated, knee length school skirt.

Black, tailored, knee length shorts.

School shoes

No trainers, pumps, high heels or canvas shoes.

All shoes must be:

- Plain black
- Flat-heeled
- Boots may be worn under trousers
- No Nike Air Force trainers

Nail guidelines

No nail varnish

No excessive or impractical length nails

Acrylic nails are not permitted

Hair guidelines

Must be simple and only natural colours

No extreme hair styles

No patterns or shapes cut in

Coats, bags and accessories

School bag should be big enough for A4 books to be carried

double strapped backpacks only, no handbags or small cross body bags

Where to purchase uniform?

All orders are placed through Match Fit Kit or School Wear Centre.

Their websites can be found at [Shop - Match Fit Kit](#) or [Schoolwear Centre](#)

We actively encourage parents to donate good quality items of used uniform to the PTA of GEA so that this can be made available for sale at reduced rates for those who are identified as being in need. Parents who wish to either donate or purchase second hand uniform should contact Lorraine Lewis on: Lorraine.Lewis@georgeeliotacademy.org.uk

Expectations for our school community

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)

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 and carers are also expected to contact Miss Havard (Vice Principal) if they want to request a reasonable adjustment to pupil uniform.

Staff

Staff will closely monitor and support pupils to make sure they are in correct uniform.

In cases of financial hardship, staff will take a mindful and considerate approach to resolving the situation and support will be discussed with the parent / carer.

Ongoing breaches of the uniform policy will be dealt with in line with our behaviour policy.

Seasonal changes: If short term amendments are required due to changing temperatures, the school will contact parents through usual channels to inform of any specific changes and time frames.

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

Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed annually. At every review, it will be approved by the Local Governing Body.

Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

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