



# Southfields Academy Uniform Policy

## Aims

The primary objective of this policy is to ensure that the Southfields Academy uniform provides value for money while fulfilling legal obligations under the Equality Act 2010. The Academy aims to provide a safe, comfortable, and inclusive environment by prohibiting discrimination based on protected characteristics, including race, religion, sex, disability, and gender reassignment.

## 2. Keeping the Cost Low

In accordance with Department for Education (DfE) statutory guidance, the Academy actively seeks to keep the cost of uniform as low as possible. The policy limits branded items to a maximum of four: **the blazer, tie, jumper, and PE shirt**. These may be ordered from our supplier, Stitch Design.

- Items like black trousers, black skirts, white shirts, and blouses, can be purchased from any retailer e.g. a supermarket.
- The Academy has a limited supply of second-hand uniform available for new starters for a short-term loan.

## 3. Uniform Expectations

The Academy maintains high standards for student appearance. The daily uniform consists of the four branded items combined with plain black tailored trousers or pleated skirts and white collared shirts/blouses.

Physical Education (PE): The Academy PE shirt is compulsory. For other items, students may wear plain black loose-fitting shorts, plain black track pants, or plain black leggings (for girls). Swimming requires a suitable plain black one-piece costume/full coverage swimsuit or plain black trunks/shorts.

## 4. Roles and Responsibilities

The success of the uniform policy relies on the cooperation of the entire school community:

- Students are expected to wear the correct uniform on the premises, during travel to and from school, and at off-site school events.
- Parents and Carers are responsible for ensuring the uniform is clean, labelled, and in good condition.
- Staff are responsible for monitoring the correct uniform is being worn. A "mindful and considerate" approach will be taken to breaches caused by financial hardship.
- Governors and Leadership: The Governing Board and Principal review the policy annually to ensure it remains practical, fair, and aligned with the school's context and parental feedback.

## 5. Resolution of Disputes

Complaints regarding the uniform or its cost are handled locally through the Academy's complaints policy. The school commits to working closely with families to reach mutually acceptable outcomes, ensuring that the uniform remains a point of pride rather than a barrier to education.

December 2025

Next review – December 2027