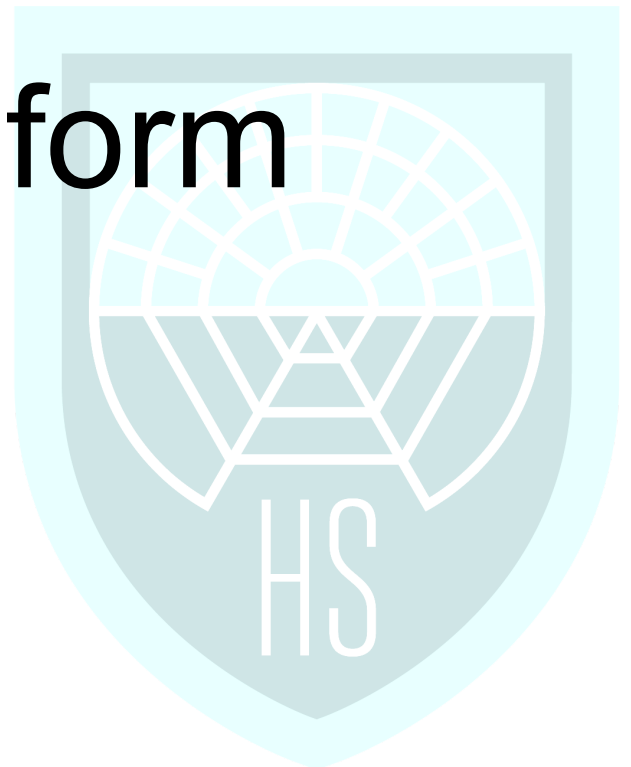




HOULTON

SCHOOL

School Uniform Policy



February 2026

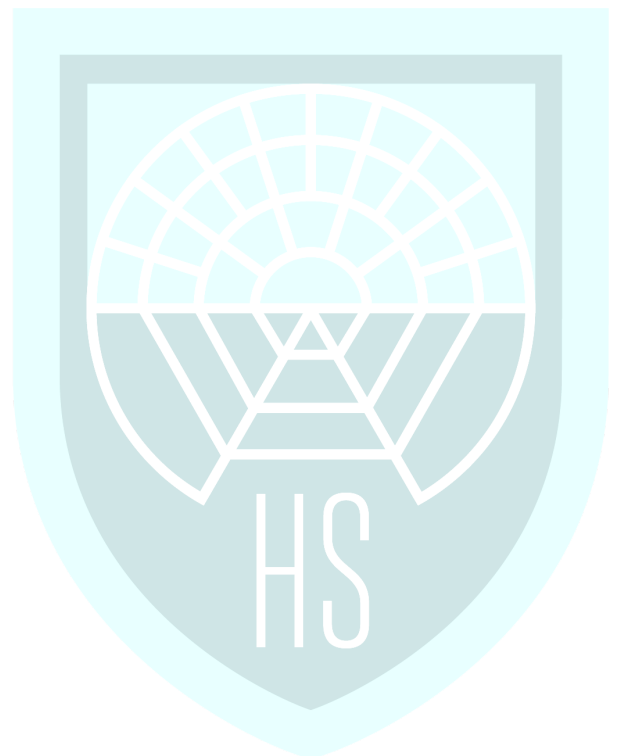
Version Control

Category:	Uniform	
Authorised By:	Local Governing Board	
Author:	Paul Brockwell	
Version:	1	
Status:	Under Review:	
	Approved:	✓
Issue Date:	February 2026	
Next Review Date:	February 2027	
Statutory Policy	Yes	✓
	No	
<i>Printed Copies Are Uncontrolled</i>		



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1. Rationale and Statutory Requirements

The [Equality Act 2010](#) prohibits discrimination against an individual based on the protected characteristics, which include: age, sex, sexual orientation, disability, race, religion or belief, pregnancy and maternity, and gender reassignment.

To avoid discrimination, our school will:

- Avoid listing uniform items based on sex, to give students the opportunity to wear the uniform they feel most comfortable in
- Make sure that our uniform costs the same for all students
- Allow all students to have long hair, although we reserve the right to ask that long hair be tied back
- Allow all students to style their hair in a way that is appropriate for school, and makes them feel comfortable
- Allow students to wear headscarves and/or other religious garments
- Allow students with sensory or physical needs to make reasonable adjustments to their uniform, depending on their specific needs
- Allow for reasonable adjustments to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking students or their parents/carers to get in touch with Sian Warde, Assistant Principal, who can answer questions about the policy and respond with any requests. These will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

2. Scope

This policy refers to:

Parents/Carers	✓	Trustees	
Employees		Volunteers	
students/Students	✓	Visitors	
Governors		Community	

3.1. Roles and Responsibilities

3.1.1 Parents/Carers:

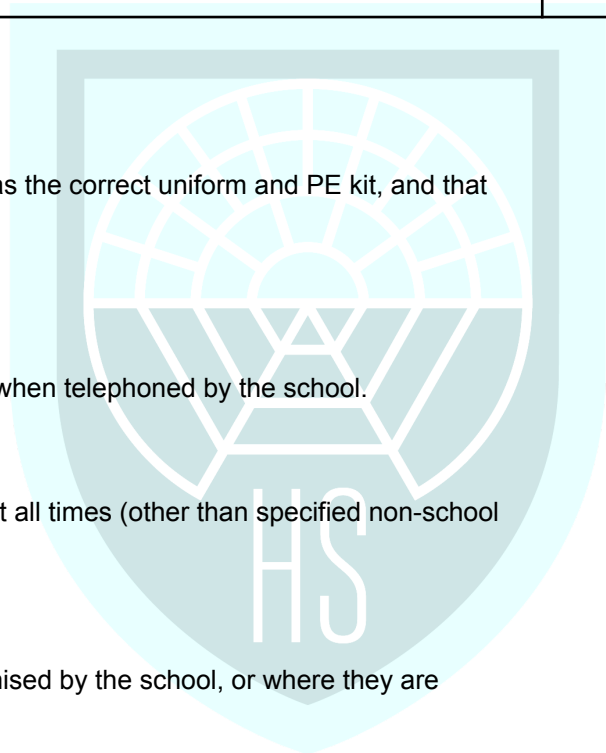
It is the parent/carer(s) responsibility to ensure their child has the correct uniform and PE kit, and that every item is:

- Clean
- Clearly labelled with the child's name
- In good condition
- If required to do so, bring in the correct uniform when telephoned by the school.

3.1.2 students:

It is the students responsibility 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)



- To change into the appropriate uniform as stored at the school for such reasons.

3.1.2 Staff

It is the staff's responsibility to closely monitor students to make sure they are in the correct uniform. They will give any students and families breaching the uniform policy the opportunity to comply, but will follow up with the Head of School if the situation does not improve.

3. Principles

- That uniform builds a sense of identity and community.
- Affordability must never be a barrier.
- We will avoid discrimination in line with our legal duties under the Equality Act 2010.

4. Policy Statement.

The UK Department for Education (DfE) issued new statutory guidance to schools regarding the cost of school uniforms in October 2025. They made clear that they believe school uniforms should help build a sense of identity and community among students and with their school. To do this, it must be affordable. Affordability should never be a barrier to the schools for which parents apply or the activities in which children can participate.

Schools need to think about the total cost of uniforms, taking into account all the items that parents will need to provide while their child is at school.

All branded items should be kept to a minimum.

5. Procedure

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 (DfE) on the cost of school uniforms.

We understand that items with distinctive characteristics (such as branded items, or items that need to have a school logo attached or be in a unique fabric or style) cannot be purchased from a wider range of retailers, and that requiring many such items limits parents/carers' ability to shop around for the best practice.

We will therefore make sure our uniform:

- Is available at a reasonable cost
- Provides the best value for money for parents and carers

We will do this by:

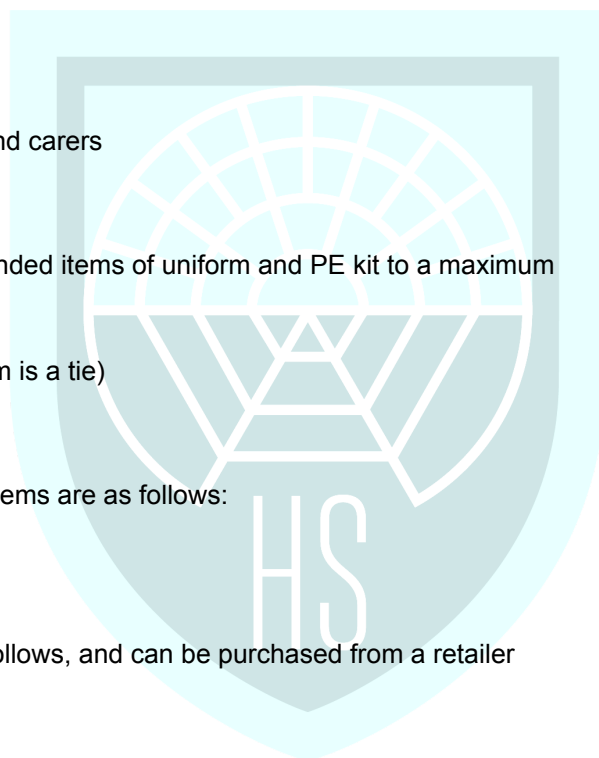
- Following the statutory limits for compulsory branded items of uniform and PE kit to a maximum of:
 - Primary provision: 3 or fewer
 - Secondary provision: 4 or fewer (if 1 item is a tie)

6.3 School Uniform - Primary Provision:

For Houlton's primary provision the compulsory branded items are as follows:

1. Houlton branded polo shirt
2. Houlton branded sweatshirt or cardigan

Further to the above compulsory items the uniform is as follows, and can be purchased from a retailer of your choosing.



- Plain charcoal grey trousers, skirt, shorts or pinafore dress
- Plain dark (black or grey) ankle socks or opaque tights
- Black school shoes (not trainers)

PE

In addition to the Houlton polo / sweatshirt, for PE lessons pupils will wear:

- Plain black shorts or jogging bottoms
- Sport socks
- Trainers

6.4 School Uniform - Secondary Provision:

For Houlton's secondary provision the compulsory branded items are as follows:

1. Houlton branded Tie
2. Houlton branded Blazer
3. Lower body Houlton branded garments (Tartan skirt*, Trousers, Shorts)
4. Houlton branded PE top

**please note if your child chooses to wear a skirt, that the skirt must be knee length.*

All other logo'd items are optional. Other logo'd items are available from our preferred uniform supplier, Webb Ellis in Rugby.

Further to the above compulsory items the uniform is as follows, and can be purchased from a retailer of your choosing.

- Plain grey knitted jumper.
- Plain white shirt or blouse
- Plain dark (black or grey) ankle socks or black opaque tights
- Black leather / leather look shoes. (canvas shoes, trainers, trainer-style or shoes with logos are not acceptable)
- Plain black, dark grey or navy coat, with no large logos.
- students wearing a Hijab/turban or other item of clothing relating to religious observance must ensure that it is either black or grey in colour
- An apron suitable for practical work. (For Design and Food Technology)

PE (To be brought into school on appropriate days, when PE is timetabled)

- Appropriate trainers for indoor PE / boots for outdoor rugby/football as directed by the PE staff
- Black tracksuit bottoms
- Gum shields for rugby and other contact sports
- Shin pads
- Long hair must be tied back

Jewellery (primary and secondary)

- One pair of ear studs are approved. Other jewellery is not permitted..
- A wristwatch may be worn, but smart watches are NOT permitted.
- All jewellery must be removed for PE, DT and food lessons as instructed.

Any item of jewellery worn is deemed as a potential risk and in accordance with health & safety the student will be asked to remove it. All valuable items brought on to the school site is done so at the student and parents own risk. The school will not be held responsible for the loss or damage of any items that are not approved as part of the school uniform.

Hair

- Hair should be of a colour that is considered natural.
- Extremes of hair colour or style are not permitted. Longer hair will need to be tied back for PE and other practical activities and should not cover eyes during lessons.

Cosmetics

- Make up should be subtle
- Nails should be of a length suitable for all activities. Please note that students will need to file down long nails if they attend school with nails of an unsuitable length to safely participate.
- Nails should not be brightly painted and any false nails should be of a suitable length for all activities

6.5 Sixth Form Provision

Sixth Form students are expected to wear appropriate clothing for the professional environment of school, any student arriving at school wearing inappropriate clothing will be sent home to change.

- Business /office wear
 - Shirt and tie or smart office style top
 - Smart tailored trousers or appropriate length smart skirt or dress
 - Smart shoes/boots with a low or flat heel
 - Appropriate jumper/cardigan
 - Smart jacket
- Appropriate PE attire must be worn and brought into school for timetabled lessons if applicable
- Only discreet items of jewellery may be worn, and must be removed for PE, DT or Food subjects

6.6 Where to Purchase

Houlton School last tendered in 2021 and our current arrangements for all logo'd uniform is with trusted local supplier Webb Ellis, who also supply almost all secondary schools in the Rugby Borough.

Please see the Webb Ellis website for the most up to date pricing information: [here](#)

Webb Ellis Ltd
5&6 St Matthew's Street
Rugby
CV21 3BY
Tel: 01788 567777

Houlton school has a second-hand uniform shop arranged by the Friends of Houlton School (FOHS)
Their email can be found here: hellofohs@gmail.com

6. Monitoring

This policy will be reviewed annually by the Executive Principal and Head of School.

7. Related Documents

This policy is linked to:

Behaviour Policy
Equality Information and Objectives Statement
Anti-bullying Policy

