



Uniform and Appearance Policy

1. Purpose:

At The Reach Free School, a high standard of personal appearance is expected of, and from, all pupils. Our uniform identifies us as our own community and makes us recognisable in the wider community. As such, it is imperative that it is worn with pride and in accordance with this policy.

2. Principles:

This policy aims to support the ethos and school to:

- Foster the community ethos of the school
- Encourage a sense of equality and cohesion
- Protect pupils from social pressures to dress in a particular way
- Ensure that pupils of different social, religious and ethnic groups feel welcome
- Support achievement and teaching and learning
- Provide a safe and secure environment in which pupils learn how to dress appropriately.

3. Uniform Items

3.1 Standard uniform items

The Reach Free School blazer* with either:

A white formal shirt, worn with all buttons done up and tucked in, the Reach Free School tie*, worn to cover all buttons on shirt and suit style black trousers;

or

A white reverse collar blouse, worn with all buttons done up and tucked in and a black formal skirt, worn no higher than the middle of the knee

or

A white reverse collar blouse, worn with all buttons done up and tucked in and black trousers

The white formal shirts or reverse collar blouses can be either long or short sleeved, but can not have any coloured or patterned roll necks and t-shirts are not permitted underneath.

The trousers must not be denim, joggers, leggings or 'skinny' fit.

The skirt must not be Lycra or 'pencil' style

The Reach Free School jumper (optional item)*

Plain black formal leather, flat, black shoes (no boots or trainers permitted)

Black/dark grey socks which must not come above the knee

Plain black or plain dark grey opaque tights

*These items are only available from The Reach Free School

3.2 Blazers

Between September and May blazers must be worn at all times indoors and may only be removed with the permission of the class teacher. From June, blazers are optional.

3.3 Outerwear

A smart dark plain coat or jacket may be worn to and from school. Extreme styles of coats or jackets will not be permitted. Woollen hats and scarves may be worn in cold weather but extreme styles will not be permitted, this includes football motifs or brand logos. Outerwear must not be worn in classrooms.

3.4 Make-up

Make up is not permitted in years 7 or 8 . In year 9 and beyond, subtle¹ make-up may be worn.

The following items are never permitted:

- Nail varnish
- Nail extensions, acrylic or gel
- False eyelashes

3.5 Jewellery and piercings

Pupils may wear a wristwatch and one stud earring in each ear lobe. No other jewellery is permitted and if worn, pupils will have to remove it.

3.6 Hair

Hair must be kept tidy, no extreme lengths or styles are permitted. Only natural hair colours are permitted. Unnatural hair colouring is not permitted: the interpretation of 'unnatural' is as follows: a colour that is not found within the natural colour spectrum, i.e. a bright, extreme or vivid colour, or a combination of colours that is easily visible or in stark contrast. No beading or other hair decoration is permitted, and any extensions must be in a colour that naturally blends with the hair.

Minimum length: Grade 2

Other styling: Parents, Guardians and Carers must ensure that their child avoids unconventional hairstyles or colours. The Reach Free School reserves the right to insist on re-styling if it considers the style inappropriate.

Shaved patterns in hair or eyebrows are not permitted.

4. Exceptions

The Headteacher may grant exceptions to any of the above, but only where this is required for sincere religious or cultural reasons .

Pupils' uniform must be in keeping with the school's ethos. Extremes of fashion will not be permitted. Pupils who come to school in clothing that the Headteacher or Deputy Headteachers consider to be unacceptable will be either internally secluded or sent home to change.

¹ 'Subtle' is taken to mean a thin layer of foundation, no bright colours or excessive application of cosmetic products. Pupils will be required to remove any make-up which does not fit this description.

5. Physical Education Kit

5.1 Compulsory Items Version 1

The Reach Free School ¼ Zip Mid Layer* or Rain Jacket*
The Reach Free School Short Sleeve Polo Top*
The Reach Free School Shorts* or any Plain Black Sports Shorts
The Reach Free School Socks*
Trainers (appropriate sports footwear – not canvas or ‘hi-tops’)

Compulsory Items Version 2

The Reach Free School ¼ Zip Mid Layer* or Rain Jacket*
The Reach Free School Short Sleeve Polo Top*
The Reach Free School Leggings* or Plain Black Sports Leggings
The Reach Free School Socks*
Trainers (appropriate sports footwear – not canvas or ‘hi-tops’)

*These items are only available from Stevensons.

5.2 Optional additional items

The Reach Free School Rain Jacket*
The Reach Free School ¼ Zip Mid Layer*
The Reach Free School Long Sleeved Reversible Rugby Top*
The Reach Free School Tracksuit bottoms*
The Reach Free School Leggings*

*These items are only available from Stevensons.

5.3 Additional Compulsory Items Required

Shin pads are required for Hockey and Football. The school requires pupils to wear a custom-fit mouth guard for sports such as Hockey and Rugby. Studded or moulded football boots are strongly recommended for activities such as rugby and football, however astro turf trainers represent the best value for money as they can be worn on the field, MUGA and in the sports hall.

5.4 Team Kit

Pupils who are selected to represent The Reach Free School at sports fixtures will have the opportunity to wear team kit. Pupils who do not have the appropriate team kit when they are selected for a team will be able to use a team kit from the PE store.

5.5 Uniform to be worn on the way to school

Pupils must travel to school in their full school uniform, including the correct footwear. Pupils are not allowed to wear trainers or hoodies to school. They can choose to wear a smart dark plain coat or jacket. The only exception to this will be if they are attending an educational trip that does not require school uniform to be worn.

5.6 Uniform to be worn on the way home from school

Pupils can travel home from school in either their full school uniform, including the correct footwear or their full PE kit if they have had a PE lesson or Elective at the end of the day. Pupils are not allowed to wear trainers or hoodies on their way home from school, if wearing school uniform.

They can choose to wear a smart dark plain coat or jacket. The only exception to this will be if they are attending an educational trip that does not require school uniform to be worn.

5.7 Additional Items

No other additional items are allowed to be worn, this includes pin badges, except those which have been issued by the school.

6. Dress Code for Sixth Form Students

Formal shirt and tie

Or

Smart top, blouse or formal shirt

Tailored trousers, smart trousers or skirt to the knee

Smart shoes

Leather shoes

ID tag

Optional:

Blazer

Navy/Grey/Black V-Neck jumper or cardigan

The following items are not permitted

Jeans, leggings or chinos

Trainers

Hoodies or round-neck jumpers

Excessive jewellery

Any item with a large logo

Straps and/or gaps

Tracksuits

7. Monitor and Review

This policy will be reviewed every three years by The Reach Free School Governing Body.

8. Links with other policies:

Behaviour Policy

Equality Scheme

Home School Agreement

Created: June 2013

Revised: March 2023

Ratified by the Governing Body: October 2013

Date of Last Review: March 2023

Date of Next Review: Summer 2026

Change History	Date	Change(s) Made	Change Author	EDI ²
V1.0		Policy created	NSI	

² Any changes or revisions to the policy have considered equality, diversity and inclusion.
V1.7

V1.1		Minor amendments to the policy	RBO	
V1.2		Clarified section 3.6 of the policy and added sections 5.5 and 5.6 regarding uniform for the way to and from school and section 5.7 on additional items. Section 6 on dress code for Sixth Formers added.	RBO	
V1.3		Minor amendments to section 5.5 and 5.6	RBO	
V1.4	March 2021	Amendments to specific gendered terminology, piercings and reference to hair styles	SHO	
V1.5	June 2021	Further clarification to section 3.1 as a result of the removal of specific gendered terminology in March 2021. Updated section 3.2 on wearing blazers in the summer months.	RBO	
V1.6	Jan 2022	Removed the requirement for any exceptions to be substantiated by a leader of the community.	SHO	Yes
V1.7	March 2023	Updated section 5 to reflect the changes to the PE kits and minor changes to section 3.3	MST/ RBO	Yes