

The Totteridge Academy

Uniform Policy

2026/27

Statement of Principle

Uniform is a particularly important part of being a student at The Totteridge Academy. It should be worn correctly and with pride. All students are ambassadors for the school and the way in which the uniform is worn should reflect our high standards and positive expectations. Our school uniform creates a sense of community cohesion, formality, and professionalism. The uniform and rules about appearance are non-negotiable.

Aims

The policy aims to:

1. Set out our approach to acquiring a uniform that is at a reasonable cost and offers the best value for money for parents and carers
2. Explain how we will avoid discrimination in line with our legal duties under the Equality Act 2010
3. Clarify our expectations for school uniform

TTA'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, The Totteridge Academy 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 reasonable adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality

Limiting the Cost of School Uniform

The Totteridge Academy 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' 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
- Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost or long-lasting items, such as ties
- Avoiding specific requirements for items pupils 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/house 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 of any changes
- Consulting with parents and pupils on any proposed significant changes to the uniform policy and carefully considering any complaints about the policy

KS3 and KS4 Compulsory Items:

Students must have the following items:

- School blazer
- White collared shirt
- Tie
- Plain black formal trousers
- Formal black school shoes
- PE top: kit house polo shirt
- PE bottom: plain black tracksuit bottoms or plain black shorts (zero branding)
Shorts must be of an appropriate length and suitable for a school PE environment.

KS3 and KS4 Optional Items:

- School embroidered V neck jumper with the school logo
- School skirt embroidered with the school logo
- Black shorts with the white stripe
- PE tracksuit top (half zip) with school logo and white piping
- PE tracksuit bottoms with white piping
- PE leggings (black/white encore leggings)

Permitted:	Not permitted:
Piercings (ears and nose only). Students are only permitted to wear studs.	Plain black jumper as a replacement for the embroidered school jumper.
Hair dye.	Hoodies or zipped jumpers.
	Leggings (including flared leggings) as a replacement for school trousers or tights.
	Coloured or acrylic nails. This includes nude colours.
	Wearing trainers as a replacement of school shoes.
	Fluffy socks.
	Untucked shirts and top buttons undone.

Headwear must not be worn inside the school buildings unless it is worn for recognised religious or cultural observance, or for medical reasons agreed with the school.

In the playground, weather appropriate hats are permitted at times of hot or cold weather, but at no time should students' faces be covered.

What happens if there is incorrect uniform:

- If a student arrives at school wearing incorrect uniform, they will be asked to change into school uniform provided by the school. This will be issued in exchange for a deposit (such as a valuable item), which will be returned at the end of the school day. The student will receive a uniform reminder, which will also be recorded on Arbor.
- If a student refuses to wear the loan uniform provided, they will be placed in the Refocus Room for the remainder of that school day.
- If the school is unable to provide the correct size of loan uniform, the student will be given a one-day exemption. They will be expected to attend in the correct uniform the following school day. If the uniform needs replacing and parents/carers are unable to do this before the next school day, please contact your child's Director of Learning who will discuss the support available.
- If a student is wearing nail varnish, they will be asked to remove it at Student Services (where it can be removed safely). If a student is wearing acrylic or false nails, they will be placed in the Refocus Room and parents/carers will be contacted to ensure the nails are removed that afternoon.

- If a student's shoes are broken and their parent/carer has ordered a replacement, the school can provide a loan pair until the new shoes arrive. If a suitable size is unavailable, the student's Director of Learning may authorise the temporary wearing of plain black trainers. Proof that replacement shoes have been ordered must be provided.
- If a student's shoes are broken and their parent/carer is unable to purchase a replacement immediately, please contact your child's Director of Learning, who will discuss the support available.
- Alternative footwear for a medical condition will only be authorised if the school receives a signed letter from a doctor or other appropriate medical professional.
- Please note that this guidance is not exhaustive. The school may make amendments to the uniform policy during the academic year, and any changes will be communicated to parents/carers as appropriate.

Doodling:

- If a student doodles on their hands, arms and legs with pen ink they will receive a uniform reminder and will be required to wash it off during break/lunch time, before their next lesson.

Purchasing Preloved uniform:

- Throughout the year we ask parents/carers to donate any old uniform that their child no longer uses. Donations can be brought to reception, or their child can bring it directly to student services.
- Parents/Carers can contact adminsupport@tta.org.uk to enquire about buying preloved uniform (depending on availability).
- Price list below for our preloved uniform is below:

PE Polo Shirt	£2.50
PE Shorts	£2.50
PE Zip Training Top	£3.00
School shirt	£1.50
School skirt	£3.00
School tie	£1.00
School trousers	£3.50
V Neck Jumper	£3.50
School Blazer	£5.00

- In the summer, we invite parents/carers of our incoming Year 7 students to buy Preloved Uniform.

Appendix 1:

UNIFORM4KIDS

HOWARD BROS



The Totteridge Academy | Uniform List 2023

SKU	Item	Description	Starting Prices
6242/6243	Blazer	Purple, embroidered with school logo	£37.99
4245	Shirts	White, long sleeved, triple pack	£16.50
4243	Blouses	White, long sleeved, closed neck, triple pack	£16.50
4407/4408	Shirts	White, long sleeved, twin pack	£13.99
4494	Blouses	White, long sleeved, closed neck, twin pack	£13.99
6241	V-neck Pullover	Black, embroidered with school logo	£19.99
2486	School Tie	Purple/Silver/Black, 52" Year 7-9	£6.99
2487	School Tie	Purple//White, 52" Year 10-11	£6.99
2040/2038	Boys Trousers	Black	£15.99
6988	Short Trousers	Black (summer term)	£12.99
6244	Skirt	Black, Charleston, embroidered with school logo	£24.99
5880/5301	Girls Trousers	Black, Trimley	£18.99
1255	Boys Socks	Black, 5 pack	£8.99
2260	Girls Socks	Black, knee high, triple pack	£8.00
2263	Tights	Black, twin pack	£7.99
1915	Craft Apron		£5.99
	Name tapes		
Sports Kit			
6245	1/4 Zip Tracksuit Top	Black, with White piping, embroidered with school logo	£22.99
6151	House Polo Shirt	House colours, embroidered with school logo	£14.99
6246	Sports Shorts	Black, with White stripe	£9.99
3365	Tracksuit Bottoms	Black	£12.99
4055	Football Socks	Black	£4.50