



Student Uniform Policy

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Appendix 1: Transition booklet

UNIFORM POLICY

1. Policy Statement

- 1.1 Lighthouse School is committed to protecting the health, safety and wellbeing of all students and staff and to providing an inclusive and supportive working environment for everyone who works here.
- 1.2 Lighthouse school wants students, parents, and staff to understand what the school uniform policy is and set clear guidelines as to what standard of dress is expected from students and what clothing and accessories cannot be worn at school.
- 1.3 Highlight what support is available for families experiencing financial difficulties with the purchase of uniform.
- 1.4 This Policy sets out the guidance as to what students are expected to wear as school uniform and the procedure if students are not following this in terms of communicating with Parents and Carers and documenting this.

2. Roles and Responsibilities

2.1 Lighthouse school will:

- all staff will familiarise themselves with this Policy;
- be vigilant and offer additional support to families experiencing financial difficulty in the purchase of new school uniform;
- listen and, wherever possible, respond sympathetically to any requests for uniform adjustments;
- hold follow-up meetings where appropriate;
- ensure all agreed adjustments are adhered to and reviewed, where necessary;
- review the effectiveness of the Uniform Policy;
- ensure good communication between Parents and Carers if students are not adhering to the school uniform and document this;

2.2 Students will:

- read the Uniform list in conjunction with their Parent/s / Carer/s to understand what the school uniform is and what standard of dress is expected both on site at school and off site and representing the school.
- ensure they wear the agreed school uniform every day for them.
- speak to staff if they are unsure as to the uniform requirements or have any questions.

2.3 Parents and Carers will:

- read the Uniform Policy and school uniform list with their child/ren and seek clarification from school where required;
- help support the school enforce the Uniform Policy by ensuring their child/ren have the correct uniform before their first day at school and every day thereafter;
- raise any issues with the school; including sensory issues and financial difficulty;
- accept assistance from the school uniform exchange scheme where applicable;

- be open and honest in conversations with the school if contact is necessary to inform you that your child/ren is not complying with the Uniform Policy;
- be willing to help and support the school in the implementation of this Policy;
- communicate with the school, if adjustments are required to support your child's/ren's sensory issues.

3. Scope and Purpose

Lighthouse School is committed to ensuring that all Students, Parents / Carers and staff are clear as to what the school uniform requirements are.

Students are clear as to the uniform requirements that are expected of them, what they must not wear to school, and the procedure adopted if they do not follow the uniform list and choose to wear alternative clothing.

Parents/Carers are familiar with what the school uniform requirements are what procedures the school will follow if students do not adhere to the uniform list and if any assistance is needed.

Staff feel confident in discussing with Parents/Carers, clothing that does not comply with the uniform list and if any assistance is required.

The school wishes to support families, recognising that some students will require adaptations due to sensory needs and some families may need additional support to ensure their child/ren wears the correct uniform.

Lighthouse School wishes to encourage an environment in which students, Parents and Carers and staff are familiar with the uniform list and can have open conversations regarding items being worn which is not part of the school uniform.

Lighthouse School Student Uniform Policy is inclusive of all gender identities including trans gender and non-binary students and will be fully supportive of all Students and Parents/Carers.

4. Aims and objectives

- 4.1 The aim of this policy is to ensure everyone – Students, Parents / Carers and all staff are aware of the schools' expectations regarding uniform.
- 4.2 The school creates an environment where staff feel confident enough to openly and comfortably engage in discussions with Students and Parents/Carers regarding non-compliance of the uniform list and to consider any reasonable requests for adjustments.
- 4.3 To ensure that any appropriate adjustments due to sensory issues are supported by staff, recognising that all Students are individuals and therefore a 'one size fits all' is not appropriate.

- 4.4 The school wishes to reduce uncertainty and lack of adherence to the uniform list by encouraging communication with Parents / Carers following any instances of non-compliance to ensure students wear the correct uniform at school.
- 4.5 Raise awareness of the school uniform list and how this may assist Students with future independent life in the workplace, by ensuring everyone understands what the school expectations are of the uniform list and are clear on Lighthouse school's procedures should the uniform list not be followed.
- 4.6 Encourage open conversations between Students, Parents and staff.
- 4.7 Direct Parents/ Carers to relevant assistance when experiencing financial difficulties with the purchase of new school uniform.

5. The School Uniform

At Lighthouse School, we believe that a school uniform is both helpful and important as:

- It reflects the school's ethos and values.
- Fosters a feeling of pride.
- It looks smart and presentable.
- Promotes a sense of belonging and contributes to a community.
- Students feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance.
- Serves as a visual and physical prompt which helps some of our students to differentiate between school days, weekends, and holidays.
- Is designed with health and safety in mind.

We ask that all students wear the Lighthouse uniform and encourage them to maintain a good standard of clean and tidy dress in school. All students are expected to wear their uniform correctly and take pride in their appearance. The school is a place of work and students' standards of uniform are expected to reflect the important nature of learning and appropriate health and safety considerations. The uniform is designed to be practical, maintainable, and good value for money.

We understand that some of our students have sensory aversions or preferences to certain fabrics and this can impact them on a day-to-day basis. At Lighthouse, we endeavour to support those students to explore adaptations to the uniform that still follow guidelines where possible, to help them feel safe and secure in school. We welcome discussions with students, parents and carers around this matter where needed.

The School Uniform List

At Lighthouse, we would like our pupils to wear the following clothing:

The school uniform: (Years 7 to 11)

- Black trousers / skirts / shorts
- Black sweatshirt, preferably with the Lighthouse school logo or school blazer
- White cotton shirt/blouse or white polo shirt
- Black shoes
- School tie

The school PE kit:

- Black polo shirt, preferably with the Lighthouse logo
- Black shorts
- Black sports socks
- Black tracksuit or jogging bottoms
- Training shoes

For health reasons, it is important that children and young people are properly dressed for physical activity (PE). If a student is required to bring their PE kit on site, this should be in a clearly labelled bag.

In the event of cold weather, you may wish your child to wear a warm fleece, tracksuit top, or sweatshirt.

Please ensure that all of your child's belongings are clearly labelled so that any mislaid or lost items can be returned home as soon as possible.

The school may refuse permission to wear any item of clothing or accessory on health and safety grounds.

Hair accessories

Slides, hair clips, bobbles, etc., should be fairly simple and if possible, in school colours.

The expectation is that long hair will be tied and secured away from the face, neck and shoulders when learning activities dictate e.g., during P.E and with practical work in a science laboratory and food technology.

Jewellery

For safety reasons, we ask that all students do not wear jewellery at school, the exception being that a watch may be worn.

Makeup and False Nails

- Any makeup worn should be very light and discreet.
- False nails must not be worn, as they may present a health and safety risk to others.

Lockers

Your child will be allocated a locker for storage of bags, coats and other equipment they may bring to school. Please ensure your child does not bring valuable items to school. The school does not take responsibility for any damage to, or loss of, such items.

Uniform stockists

Uniform items are available to order from The School Uniform Shop (18-20 Green Road, Leeds, LS6 4JP, Telephone: 0113 2306272). Online shop- www.uniwears.co.uk

It is not compulsory to purchase the uniform from The School Uniform Shop as the generic unbranded clothing required for uniform such as skirts, trousers and shirts can be purchased from various outlets, such as supermarkets. Plain sweatshirts can be worn without the school logo.

See Section 7 for further support regarding secondhand uniforms.

Sixth Form Uniform (Year 12+)

Students in Years 12 and above are not required to wear school uniform on the list on the previous page and can wear their own casual clothing. Our sixth form dress code focusses on being clean, presentable, and ready for work. This ensures that students are dressed appropriately and comfortably to access work and further education activities during the school day. It also reflects the more mature role that our sixth form students play within the school.

We support our pupils to develop their independence in a wide range of work experience placements. When our pupils are on placement, we support them to understand the need to adhere to workplace standards, which includes wearing appropriate clothing.

Please speak to school if you are unsure what your child will need to wear on a work-based placement.

6. Procedure for non-compliance of the uniform list

6.1 Students and Parents / Carers are provided with a full uniform list in the student transition pack, prior to starting at Lighthouse school. In addition, the full uniform list is detailed on the school's website.

6.2 If a student wears an item of clothing which is not on the uniform list, such as a onesie, staff will have a conversation with the student and ask why an item of clothing is being worn that is not on the school uniform list and record their responses. If a student is uncertain as to what the school uniform is, they will go through the list with the student.

6.3 Staff should arrange for Parents / Carers to be contacted to be notified that clothing is being worn which is outside of the uniform list and record contact on the student's file. If a student says they are uncertain what clothing should be worn, Parents / Carers will be notified of this, and the school uniform list will be e-mailed home.

6.4 If adjustments are required due to sensory issues, these should be directed to the relevant Co-ordinator for referral to SLT and noted on the student's file. Where adjustments are unsuccessful and /or a student continues to wear non-uniform clothing, a letter will be sent

home to reiterate the school uniform requirements.

- 6.5 The relevant Key Stage Co-ordinator will make a referral to SLT, if a decision concerning the appropriateness of any element of uniform is required.

7 Further Support

- 7.1 Please contact the school if you need support with school uniform.

We hold a small stock of second-hand uniforms. Please feel free to donate an old uniform or contact us if you need some.

- 7.2 Please contact your child's Key worker or Key Stage Co-ordinator to discuss any uniform sensory aversions.

- 7.3 Lighthouse school encourages families who are experiencing financial difficulty in purchasing new school uniform to contact the Leeds school uniform exchange online <https://www.zerowasteleeds.org.uk/tips/leeds-school-uniform-exchange/>