



School Uniform Policy

QES & QESstudio

Approved by: Local Governing Body

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Contents

1. Aims	2
2. Our school's legal duties under the Equality Act 2010	2
3. Limiting the cost of school uniform	3
4. Expectations for school uniform	4
5. Expectations for our school community	8
6. Monitoring arrangements	9
7. Links to other policies	10

1. Aims

At QES and QESstudio we have a strict dress code to remove peer pressure, boost confidence and encourage a focus on our School Values. Pupils are expected to wear the correct uniform at all times (other than specified non-uniform days) – whilst on the school premises, on the journey to and from school, and on school trips and fixtures.

This policy aims to:

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

2. Our school's legal duties under the Equality Act 2010

The [Equality Act 2010](#) prohibits discrimination against an individual based on the protected characteristics, which include age, sex, 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 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 a way that is appropriate for school and makes them feel most comfortable
- Allow pupils to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons or if they are experiencing discomfort related to their sex, gender or gender reassignment
- Allow pupils to wear headscarves and/or other religious garments
- Allow pupils with sensory or physical needs to make reasonable adaptations to their uniform depending on their specific needs

- Allow for reasonable adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking pupils or their parents/carers to get in touch with their child's Head of Year in the first instance. These will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Rebecca Chapman, Deputy Headteacher is the member of the Leadership Team who oversees uniform. Questions about the policy can be made via office@qes.org.uk.

3. Limiting the cost of school uniform

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 uniform.

We understand that items with distinctive characteristics (such as branded items, or items that need to 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/carers' 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 for example, by only having the fleece, which feature the school logo.
- Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost and/or long-lasting items, such as ties
- Considering cheaper alternatives to school-branded items, such as logos that can be ironed on, as long as this doesn't compromise quality and durability. We sell QESstudio logos at reception, for pupils who are moving from QES and QESstudio.
- Avoiding specific requirements for items pupils could wear on non-school days, such as coats and bags.
- 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 years or classes
- 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/carers of any changes
- Offering financial support for uniform for parents/carers who need it. Pupils do not need to be eligible for pupil premium for parents/carers to qualify for this
- Consulting with parents/carers and pupils on any proposed significant changes to the uniform policy and carefully considering any complaints about the policy

4. Expectations for school uniform

4.1 Our school's uniform

QES Uniform, Key Stages 3 and 4

Item	Description	Any supplier	Monkhouse only	Required
Fleece	Dark green fleece with QES crest		X	Y
Tie	QES design		X	Y
Shirt	Plain white shirt with a collar. Long-sleeved or short-sleeved. Must not be tight fitting. Worn tucked in.	X		Y
Trousers	Plain black trousers. Full length. Standard fit - i.e. not tight or flared. No leggings, jeggings or jeans. No embellishments or logos	X		Children can wear trousers or a skirt
Skirt	QES green checked pleated skirt. Must be knee length		x	Children can wear trousers or a skirt
Shoes	Plain black, flat shoes. No boots - including no ankle boots or Dr Martin's style boots. No trainers (this includes plain black leather trainers, e.g. Nike Air Force or Converse). No obvious brand logos. No high heels. No sandals. No canvas shoes. No backless shoes.	X		Y
Tights/socks	Plain black. Ankle socks only. No trainer socks.	X		Y
Rucksack	No fashion bags or handbags	X		Y
Coat	Should be plain, inexpensive and waterproof. No denim jackets, leather jackets or hoodies worn instead of a coat	X		Y
PE Kit				
Polo Shirt	Green and black, QES design		X	Y (see line below)
Rugby Shirt	Green and black, QES design		X	N - this can be worn for any PE lesson, pupils

				don't need both this and a polo shirt, if this is preferred
Shorts or leggings	plain black football shorts or general black sports shorts (no cycling or running shorts, coloured branding or large branding) or plain black leggings (no mesh, inserts or coloured branding).	X		Y
Socks	Black rugby/football style socks	X		Y
Rugby/football boots	6 or 8 studs (no blades)	X		Y
Trainers	Any style or brand	X		Y
QES hooded sweatshirt	Green and black QES sweatshirt		X	N
Shin pads	any colour	X		Y (please note we have a lot of stock and these can be borrowed on a lesson by lesson basis)
Kit and boot bag	Any colour	X		N
Mouth guard		X		Highly recommended (highly recommended for certain sports. Available to buy from main reception for £1) See NGB guidelines

QESTudio Uniform

Item	Description	Any supplier	Monkhouse only	Required
Fleece	Dark green fleece with QESTudio emblem. Sew-on badges can be bought from QESTudio reception to be sown over QES badges, if your child's fleece still fits.		x	Y
Tie	QESTudio design		X	Y
Shirt	Plain white shirt with a collar. Long-sleeved or short-sleeved. Must not be tight fitting. Worn tucked in.	X		Y

Trousers	Plain black trousers. Full length. Standard fit - i.e. not tight or flared. No leggings, jeggings or jeans. No embellishments or logos	X		Children can wear trousers or a skirt
Skirt	QES green checked pleated skirt. Must be knee length		X	Children can wear trousers or a skirt
Shoes	Plain black, flat shoes. No boots - including no ankle boots or Dr Martin's style boots. No trainers (this includes plain black leather trainers, e.g. Nike Air Force or Converse). No obvious brand logos. No high heels. No sandals. No canvas shoes. No backless shoes.	X		Y
Tights/socks	Plain black. Ankle socks only. No trainer socks.	X		Y
Rucksack	No fashion bags or handbags	X		Y
Coat	Should be plain, inexpensive and waterproof. No denim jackets, leather jackets or hoodies worn instead of a coat	X		Y
Countryside Pathway only	Pupils need to have specific footwear and trousers – details will be sent to parents/carers well in advance	X		Y
Performing Arts Pathway only	Pupils wear their PE/Games kit and changes in school			Y
PE Kit				
Polo Shirt	Green and black, QES design		X	Y (see line below)
Rugby Shirt	Green and black, QES design		X	N - this can be worn for any PE lesson, pupils don't need both this and a polo shirt, if this is preferred
Shorts or leggings	plain black football shorts or general black sports shorts (no cycling or running shorts, coloured branding or	X		Y

	large branding) or plain black leggings (no mesh, inserts or coloured branding).			
Socks	black rugby/football style socks	X		Y
Rugby/football boots	6 or 8 studs (no blades)	X		Y
Trainers	Any style or brand	X		Y
QES hooded sweatshirt	Green and black QES sweatshirt		X	N
Shin pads	any colour	X		Y (please note we have a lot of stock and these can be borrowed on a lesson by lesson basis)
Kit and boot bag	Any colour	X		N
Mouth guard		X		Highly recommended (highly recommended for certain sports. Available to buy from main reception for £1). See NGB guidelines.

QESixth

Item	Description	Any supplier	Monkhouse only	Required
Fleece	Black fleece with QES/QESstudio logo		X	Y
Tie	QES or QESstudio Sixth design		X	Y
Shirt	Plain white shirt with a collar. Long-sleeved or short-sleeved. Must not be tight fitting. Worn tucked in.	X		Y
Trousers	Plain black trousers. Full length. Standard fit - i.e. not tight or flared. No leggings, jeggings or jeans. No embellishments or logos	X		Students can wear trousers or a skirt
Skirt	Black kilt, with a flat front worn at knee length	X		Students can wear trousers or a skirt
Shoes	Plain black, flat shoes. No boots - including no ankle boots or Dr Martin's style boots. No trainers (this includes plain black leather trainers, e.g. Nike Air	X		Y

	Force or Converse). No obvious brand logos. No high heels. No sandals. No canvas shoes. No backless shoes.			
Tights/socks	Plain black. Ankle socks only. No trainer socks.	X		Y
Bag	Sensible bag to carry school items	X		Y
Coat	Should be plain, inexpensive and waterproof. No denim jackets, leather jackets or hoodies worn instead of a coat	X		Y

Details of our Common Standards can be found here: <https://ges.org.uk/student-school-uniform/>

4.2 Where to purchase it

Monkhouse is our supplier of badged uniform. All items marked **Monkhouse only** in the table above should be purchased from them (www.monkhouse.com). Items can be purchased online, in person from their Preston store or at their annual uniform sale at school. Details are available from the school office. Parents/carers who don't have access to the internet can also order items via the school office (office@ges.org.uk).

We have a pre-loved uniform shop at main reception which is available every day, along with regular bigger sales. We have an Access Fund and parents/carers who are struggling with the cost of buying school uniform are encouraged to seek financial support by contacting Rebecca Chapman, Deputy Headteacher via office@ges.org.uk. Parents/carers do not need to be in receipt of any particular benefits to qualify for this.

5. Expectations for our school community

5.1 Pupils

Pupils are expected 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)

Pupils are also expected to contact the child's Head of Year in the first instance via office@ges.org.uk / info@gestudio.org.uk if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to their protected characteristics.

5.2 Parents and carers

Parents and carers are expected to make sure 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

Parents/carers are also expected to contact their child's Head of Year in the first instance if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to their child's protected characteristics. Parents/carers requesting an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to the cost of the uniform should contact Rebecca Chapman, Deputy Headteacher via office@ges.org.uk / 015242 71275):

Parents/carers are expected to lodge any complaints or objections relating to the school uniform in a timely and reasonable manner.

Disputes about the cost of the school uniform will be:

- Resolved locally
- Dealt with in accordance with our school's complaints policy

The school will work closely with parents/carers to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.

5.3 Staff

Staff will closely monitor pupils to make sure they are in correct uniform. Regular uniform checks are carried out in form times and all staff are expected correct and log incidents where the uniform standards are not being followed. They will give any pupils and families breaching the uniform policy the opportunity to comply, but will follow up with the Deputy Headteacher if the situation doesn't improve.

Ongoing breaches of our uniform policy will be dealt with in accordance with our Behaviour Policy.

In cases where it is suspected that financial hardship has resulted in a pupil not complying with this uniform policy, staff will take a mindful and considerate approach to resolving the situation. Financial support for parents/carers to purchase uniform is always available.

5.4 Governors

The governing board will review this policy and make sure that it:

- Is appropriate for our school's context
- Is implemented fairly across the school
- Takes into account the views of parents/carers and pupils
- Offers a uniform that is appropriate, practical and safe for all pupils

The board will also make sure that the school's uniform supplier arrangements give the highest priority to cost and value for money, for example by avoiding single supplier contracts and by re-tendering contracts at least every 5 years.

6. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed every two years by Rebecca Chapman, Deputy Headteacher. At every review, it will be approved by the local governing board.

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

- Behaviour policy
- Safeguarding policy
- Equality information and objectives statement
- Anti-bullying policy
- Complaints policy