



SCHOOL UNIFORM POLICY

1. Introduction

Abbot's Lea School has high aspirations for all of its students. We are committed to providing a practical, inclusive and affordable uniform that reflects the needs of our school community.

The uniform policy has been developed with the views of students and families in mind. It takes account of the needs of students of different ages and preferences, including sensory needs and reasonable adjustments.

The Governing Body and Leadership Team recognise their responsibility to ensure that the school's uniform policy and supply arrangements have regard to Department for Education statutory guidance. The school will give appropriate consideration to quality, durability, sustainability and value for money when setting uniform requirements and arranging supply. It specifically limits the number of branded or prescribed items to allow families the maximum choice of sources of generic school uniform items.

The school will keep its uniform requirements under review to ensure that they remain affordable and meet statutory requirements.

There is no requirement for families to replace suitable existing uniform simply because of an updated policy. Existing suitable uniform may continue to be worn until the end of the academic year 2026-27, or until it needs replacing – whichever comes first.

2. School Uniform Expectations

Students are expected to wear the correct school uniform during the school day, unless otherwise instructed, for example on designated non-uniform days or specific educational visits.

The uniform is intended to support:

- A strong school identity and sense of belonging
- Pride in appearance and readiness for learning
- Consistency across the school community
- Equality and reduced peer pressure around clothing and accessories
- Preparation for future employment expectations

Students are expected to:

- Wear the correct uniform each day
- Wear safe, supportive and appropriate footwear
- Wear clothing in a tidy and appropriate manner

Uniform should be clean and in good condition.

The school recognises that individual circumstances may affect a student's ability to meet these expectations. Families should contact the school if there are difficulties with uniform, and the school will consider individual circumstances and reasonable adjustments.

3. Uniform Supplier, Cost and Value for Money

3.1 Approved Uniform Provider

The school's approved uniform provider is:

Kitted Out

5–17 Bleasdale Road
Allerton
Liverpool
L18 5JB

Opening hours:

Monday–Saturday: 9.00am–5.00pm

Sunday: Closed

Telephone: 0151 727 2000

Mobile text service: 07305 535575

W: www.kittedoutschoolwear.co.uk

Families may purchase required branded uniform items online for home delivery, or directly from Kitted Out store.

Current prices, stock availability and sizing information should be confirmed directly with the supplier.

For questions about which items are required, reasonable adjustments or individual circumstances, families should contact the school office:

reception@abbotsleaschool.co.uk

3.2 Value for Money and Branded Items

The school has a duty to ensure that its uniform arrangements provide good value for money for families. When determining uniform requirements and supply arrangements, the school will consider:

- The cost of individual items and the overall cost of the required uniform
- The quality, durability and sustainability of garments
- The availability of suitable generic alternatives
- The needs of students with sensory preferences
- Reasonable adjustments for individual students
- The availability of pre-loved uniform
- The accessibility and convenience of the supply arrangements for families

The school will keep compulsory branded items to the minimum necessary and will comply with the statutory limits on compulsory branded uniform and PE items.

From September 2026, no more than three different branded or prescribed items will be compulsory for Primary Department students during the school year. For Secondary Department students, no more than four such items will be compulsory during the school year, including an optional tie. This limit applies across school uniform and PE kit and includes items such as branded bags where these are compulsory.

DfE limits only apply to the school's offer of uniform options. DfE limits do not apply to family's purchasing decisions (for example, a school may only require students to have only one item out of a jumper or a blazer with a logo, but where families choose both, this is permitted).

Where a generic item is specified, families may purchase it from a retailer of their choice, provided it meets the requirements set out in this policy. Optional branded items may be available, but families will not be required to purchase them where a suitable generic alternative is available.

The school will avoid unnecessary changes to uniform specifications and will consider the impact of proposed changes on families.

4. Sensory Needs and Reasonable Adjustments

Abbot's Lea School recognises that some students may experience sensory differences which affect their ability to wear particular fabrics, styles or garments.

The school makes provisions within the uniform list for boys and girls of all ages to have items that are alternatives to the primary requirements (for example, a formal shirt and tie can, if one chooses to, be substituted for a polo t-shirt).

5. Outerwear, Accessories and Equipment

Students may wear appropriate outerwear to and from school, including coats suitable for the weather. Coats and other equipment should be practical, safe and appropriate for a school environment.

Additional optional branded items will also be available from Kitted Out, should families choose to buy a school back pack or a school coat.

Families are not required to purchase a branded school coat or school bag. Suitable generic alternatives may be used.

6. Jewellery and Appearance

For safety reasons:

- Jewellery should be kept to a minimum.
- One pair of stud earrings is permitted.
- Facial or visible body piercings are not permitted.
- Tattoos, permanent or temporary, are not permitted.
- Watches may be worn but must not be smart watches, in line with the school's approach to mobile and internet-enabled devices.
- Religious items may be worn where appropriate.

All other jewellery must be removed for PE and practical activities.

Hair should be neat and appropriate for a school setting, with long hair tied back where required for safety. Hair should not be required to conform to gender-specific expectations.

The school will apply its approach to appearance and uniform fairly and in accordance with relevant equality duties.

7. Uniform Support for Families

Kitted Out shop will have all sizes for families to try.

Sample uniform items may be available to view at the school so that families can check sizing before purchasing.

Families experiencing difficulty in meeting uniform requirements should contact the school. The school will consider what support may be available, which may include:

- Access to pre-loved uniform
- Advice about generic alternatives
- Individual arrangements where appropriate (only approved by the Leadership Team, with the view of alignment to expectations over time)

No student should be prevented from attending school or participating in school activities because their family is experiencing financial difficulty with uniform.

8. Pre-Loved Uniform

The school operates a pre-loved uniform system. Families are encouraged to donate items that are:

- Clean
- In good condition
- In line with current uniform expectations

Pre-loved uniform will be made available free of charge to families, subject to availability.

The system supports cost savings for families, sustainability, community sharing and the reuse of good-quality uniform. The school will seek to make pre-loved uniform available in a way that is accessible and discreet for families who require support.

Information about the availability of pre-loved uniform will be made clear to existing and prospective families. Families can enquire about available items and sizes by contacting: reception@abbotsleaschool.co.uk

The Department for Education statutory guidance requires schools to ensure that opportunities to acquire second-hand uniform are freely accessible and that information about this provision is clear and available to families.

9. Non-Uniform Days

The school may hold designated non-uniform days.

Where a non-uniform day involves particular clothing, costumes or themes, the school will consider the potential financial impact on families and will provide clear information about expectations in advance.

Participation in a non-uniform day will not depend on families making a financial contribution.

10. Non-Compliance

If a student is not wearing the correct uniform, staff will work with the student and family to resolve the issue in a supportive way.

The school will seek to understand the reason for non-compliance and will take individual circumstances into account before taking any formal action.

Where appropriate, the school may provide or identify a suitable alternative item so that the student can access education without unnecessary disruption.

Families should expect to receive a School Uniform Correction Request where appropriate, explaining the nature of the non-compliance and asking for correction.

The school will not penalise a student for failing to wear a uniform item where an alternative has been agreed.

11. Monitoring and Review

The Governing Body will review the policy annually. The Leadership Team will monitor the implementation of this policy and the availability, quality and affordability of uniform.

12. Uniform Enquiries

For questions about stock, availability, sizing, prices, purchasing or branded uniform items, families should contact Kitted Out or school office (reception@abbotsleaschool.co.uk)



Uniform List

How to use this list

Symbol	What it means	Where to buy
◆ BRANDED	Must carry the school logo or be a prescribed item	Only available from Kitted Out Schoolwear
✓ Generic	Plain item, no logo	Anywhere you choose

DfE guidance regarding branded or prescribed item limit:

- maximum **3** for Primary Department
- maximum **4** for Secondary Department (where a tie is chosen, it counts as one of the 4 – secondary boys only)

To comply with the DfE guidance, and to offer our students maximum flexibility of items that best meet their sensory needs, we specify our preferred items and alternative options:

- All students in our Primary Department regardless of the year group are expected to wear the same uniform, with options available and marked as such (for example: navy jogging bottoms or formal dark grey trousers, or tartan skirt for girls).
- All students in our Secondary Department are expected to wear the same uniform, regardless of year group, with options available and marked as such (for example formal blouse or optional polo with a logo, tartan skirt or formal grey trousers).

Other items are available from our uniform supplier, such as school coat, school backpack, and all items marked as generic (apart from footwear).

Families are asked to ensure that every item is clearly labeled with a child's name to increase the chance of uniting lost property with the owner.

PRIMARY DEPARTMENT

EARLY YEARS, KEY STAGE 1 AND KEY STAGE 2

(Years R, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6)

Boys

Formal uniform

Item	Branded or Generic	Colour / details
Polo shirt	◆ BRANDED	Light blue with school logo
Sweatshirt	◆ BRANDED	Navy with school logo
Navy Jogging bottoms (or) Formal school trousers	✓ Generic	Navy Dark grey
Socks	✓ Generic	Navy
Shoes	✓ Generic	Black, leather or leather-like, or plain black trainers with black soles.
Formal school summer shorts (optional)	✓ Generic	Dark grey

PE uniform

Item	Branded or Generic	Colour / details
Polo shirt (the same as formal uniform)	◆ BRANDED	Light blue with school logo
Sweatshirt (the same as formal uniform)	◆ BRANDED	Navy with school logo
PE shorts	✓ Generic	Navy
Jogging bottoms (the same as formal uniform)	✓ Generic	Navy
Trainers or plimsolls	✓ Generic	Any plain colour
PE Socks	✓ Generic	Navy

PRIMARY DEPARTMENT

EARLY YEARS, KEY STAGE 1 AND KEY STAGE 2

(Years R, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6)

Girls

Formal uniform

Item	Branded or Generic	Colour / details
Polo T-shirt	◆ BRANDED	Light blue with school logo
Sweatshirt	◆ BRANDED	Navy with school logo
Knitted cardigan (optional)	◆ BRANDED	Navy with school logo
Tartan skirt	◆ BRANDED	Abbot's Lea tartan
Jogging bottoms	✓ Generic	Navy
Formal grey trousers (alternative to tartan skirt)	✓ Generic	Dark grey
Socks or tights	✓ Generic	Navy
Shoes	✓ Generic	Black, leather or leather-like, or plain black trainers with black soles.
Summer dress (optional)	✓ Generic	Gingham check, sky blue and white

PE uniform

Item	Branded or Generic	Colour / details
Polo T-shirt (the same as formal uniform)	◆ BRANDED	Light blue with school logo
Sweatshirt (the same as formal uniform)	◆ BRANDED	Navy with school logo
PE shorts	✓ Generic	Navy
Jogging bottoms (the same as formal uniform)	✓ Generic	Navy
PE Socks	✓ Generic	Navy
Trainers or plimsolls	✓ Generic	Any plain colour

SECONDARY DEPARTMENT

KEY STAGE 3, 4 and 5 (Year 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14)

Boys

Formal uniform

Item	Branded or Generic	Colour / details
Shirt	✔ Generic	Light blue, long or short sleeve
Tie	◆ BRANDED	Navy and light blue stripe supplier only
Polo T-Shirt (optional for students unable to wear shirt and tie)	◆ BRANDED	Light blue with school logo
Blazer or Knitted Jumper (or both if wanted)	◆ BRANDED	Navy with school badge
Formal school trousers	✔ Generic	Dark Grey
Formal school shorts (summer uniform) – optional	✔ Generic	Dark Grey
Socks	✔ Generic	Grey
Shoes	✔ Generic	Black, leather or leather-like, or plain black trainers with black soles.

PE uniform

Item	Branded or Generic	Colour / details
PE T-shirt	◆ BRANDED	Navy with school logo
PE hoodie	◆ BRANDED	Navy with school logo
PE shorts or tracksuit bottoms	✔ Generic	Navy
Socks	✔ Generic	Navy
Trainers	✔ Generic	Any plain colour

SECONDARY DEPARTMENT

KEY STAGE 3, 4 and 5 (Year 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14)

Girls

Formal uniform

Item	Branded or Generic	Colour / details
Blouse	✔ Generic	Light blue (short or long sleeved)
Polo T-Shirt (optional for students unable to wear a formal blouse)	◆ BRANDED	Light blue with school logo
Blazer or Knitted Jumper or Knitted Cardigan	◆ BRANDED	Navy with school logo
Tartan Skirt (optional)	◆ BRANDED	Abbot's Lea tartan
Formal school trousers	✔ Generic	Grey
Tights or socks	✔ Generic	Navy
Shoes	✔ Generic	Black, leather or leather-like, or plain black trainers with black soles.

PE uniform

Item	Branded or Generic	Colour / details
PE T-shirt	◆ BRANDED	Navy with school logo
PE hoodie	◆ BRANDED	Navy with school logo
PE shorts, skort or leggings	✔ Generic	Navy
Socks	✔ Generic	Navy
Trainers	✔ Generic	Any plain colour
Shoes	✔ Generic	Any plain colour