



UNIFORM POLICY

[AVANTI SCHOOLS TRUST]

This policy is in force until further notice from:	July 2022
This policy must be reviewed by:	July 2023
Policy Author(s):	Education Director
Date policy reviewed by Education Director:	July 2022
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Under the Trust's Scheme of Delegation this policy must be approved by [NAME OF COMMITTEE OR BOARD]. Such approval was given on: July 18 2022	LTS Committee 18.07.22

UNIFORM POLICY

Introduction:

Avanti Schools Trust exists to help each person become a well-rounded human being through intellectual, moral and spiritual growth, and to make the world a better place.

Our actions and our intentions as school leaders are guided by our core principles of Academic Excellence, Character Formation and Spiritual Insight.

If pupils are to achieve academically, socially and emotionally to the best of their ability, it is essential that their basic needs for safety, protection and inclusion are successfully and confidently addressed.

Avanti's virtues of respect, self-discipline, courage, integrity, empathy and gratitude are tangible throughout school life, where leadership at all levels understand the importance of modelling exemplary behaviour and attitudes. These characteristics influence our pupils to also model and grow up to behave appropriately.

It is our policy that all pupils in our schools throughout all years, starting from reception up until Year 11, 12 and 13 should wear a school uniform when attending school, or when participating in a school-organised event outside normal school hours, unless exempted from doing so by the Principal on designated days. We provide a complete list of the items needed for school uniform on our school websites.

Uniform and achievement have always been a high priority at Avanti Schools Trust; we believe the way in which pupils wear their school uniform reflects the importance which is placed on attention to detail and pride in their school. It is one way in which we identify ourselves as a community of schools and we believe that it promotes a strong, cohesive identity which supports high standards and expectations in all areas of school life. It promotes harmony between different groups represented in the school, and it enhances security.

1. Aims and objectives

Our policy is based on the notion that a school uniform:

- promotes a sense of identity and pride for pupils attending the school
- engenders a feeling of community and belonging
- is practical and smart
- identifies the children with the school
- is not distracting in class (as fashion clothes might be)
- makes pupils feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance
- is regarded as suitable, and good value for money by most parents
- has been designed with health and safety in mind

2. Roles and Responsibilities

The Education Director:

- Monitors and reviews the school uniform policy
- Requires the Principal to report on the implementation of the policy

Principal:

- To implement and monitor the policy on a day-to-day basis
- Has overall responsibility for ensuring standards are maintained
- Is responsible, along with the relevant members of SLT, for any disciplinary measures required for failing to follow the uniform rules and will contact parents/carers as required
- Considers, with the SLT and Central Team where required, any requests from parents for special dispensation with regard to uniform.

Staff:

- Support the Leadership Team in maintaining high standards of uniform dress
- Are role models in the wearing of appropriate clothing
- Make discreet and sympathetic enquiries when pupils fail to wear correct school uniform
- Are aware of pupils whose standard of dress may indicate care issues at home and report concerns to the appropriate persons (see Child Protection Policy)
- Give positive encouragement to pupils setting good examples of dress

Parents/Carers:

- Support the School Uniform Policy
- Ensure their pupils are appropriately dressed, wearing correct uniform and are ready to learn.
- Ensure that they keep their childrens school uniform clean and in good condition.

Pupils:

- Wear correct school uniform when attending school, representing the school, or when participating in a school-organised event outside normal school hours
- Wear their uniform with pride
- Keep their uniform clean and tidy
- Remember to bring PE kit on the correct days

3. Our Uniform Consists of:

Reception – Year 6

Compulsory Items (purchasable through Brigade):

- Avanti Boys V Neck Knitted Jumper
Avanti Girls Knitted Cardigan
- Avanti School Tie [YEAR 6 BOYS/GIRLS ONLY]
- Avanti Book Bag

Non-Compulsory Items:

- Avanti Polo Shirt
- Avanti 'Blue Max' Fleece Jacket
- Avanti Swim/PE Bag

Compulsory Items (purchasable anywhere):

Boys <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • White polo shirt • White shirt (YEARS 4–6) • Grey trousers (not black or charcoal) • Black/grey socks • Black school shoes (no trainers/boots) 	Girls <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • White polo shirt • White shirt or blouse (YEAR 4–5) • White shirt (YEAR 6) • Grey trousers or grey below-knee skirt (not black or charcoal) • Black/grey socks/tights • Black school shoes (no trainers, boots or sandals)
Summer Term Options:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grey shorts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Navy (dark blue chequered – NOT light blue) gingham pinafore dress

PE Kit

Children need a change of clothing for Physical Education; this should include blue shorts, white T-shirt, black plimsols, trainers, navy blue jogging bottoms and a warm top. Learning to change out of uniform and into a PE kit is an important learning task for our younger children. It also creates a growing self-awareness of what is appropriate in different settings.

Year 7 – Year 11

Compulsory Items (purchasable through Brigade):

- **Avanti school tie**
- **A Navy Blazer.** Blazers and jumpers must have the school's logo and can only be bought from the approved school outfitters. Logos are not sold separately.
- **A navy jumper.** Only V neck jumpers with the AHS logo are allowed. As an alternative, a white top may be worn under the shirt – no visibly coloured clothing should show through. Jumpers will not be permitted to be worn independently of

the blazer. The only item which should be worn between the blazer and shirt is the school jumper.

Compulsory Items (purchasable anywhere):

- **A white school shirt** must be worn with a top button which fastens at the neck. The shirt should be long enough to be tucked in and the top button must be fastened at all times. Blouse style shirts with rounded collars are not allowed. If pupils wish to wear a vest, then these also have to be plain white with no logo and are the same sleeve length as the shirt or shorter.
- **A grey skirt.** Girls may wear a grey skirt, which has two inverted kick pleats and no splits. It is important to ensure that the skirt is knee-length and not made of stretchy material. Pupils will be asked to replace skirts which no longer comply with the length requirements.
- **Grey Trousers.** Trousers must be grey (not black or charcoal) and of a classic wider style: straight, with no visible zips, studs or buckles and which do not fit closely on any part of the leg.

P.E Clothing

<p>Boys</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avanti School PE shorts • Avanti School PE polo shirt • White ankle length socks • Avanti School rugby Shirt • Avanti School tracksuit bottoms (optional) • Avanti School football socks • Avanti School sweatshirt • Sports trainers (not plimsoles) • Football boots • Plain thermal base layer (for winter, optional) • Gumshield (buy from PE department) • Shinpads (optional) • Sweatbands (to cover any religious bracelets, bands that cannot be removed) • Appropriate blue or black waterproof 	<p>Girls</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avanti PE skirt • Avanti PE polo shirt • White ankle length socks • Sports trainers (not plimsoles) • Avanti School Sweatshirt • Hair ties where required • Sweatbands (to cover any religious bracelets, bands that cannot be removed) • Football Boots • Appropriate blue or black waterproof.
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4. Guidelines

- It is expected that all pupils wear the school uniform on each school day with the appropriate footwear.
- If a pupil does not wear the correct uniform, a verbal and/or written reminder of our expectations will be communicated to the pupil and parents/carers (see Appendix A).
- If a pupil arrives at school wearing incorrect uniform with no communication from parents/carers, they may be expected to wear borrowed uniform items from the Uniform Store (at the main office) for that day.
- If a pupil arrives at school wearing incorrect uniform with communication from parents/carers, they will be given a uniform note for that day only, with the expectation that the issue will be resolved the following day.
- Pupils are responsible for taking care of their own school uniform and that borrowed from school.
- Pupils who repeatedly come to school without the correct school uniform may be sent home to change or be placed in the Isolation base.
- We ask parents and carers to support all decisions by school staff regarding whether or not clothing is appropriate or inappropriate for school.

5. Jewellery, piercings, make-up, false nails, extreme hair and hoodies.

- **Piercings**
 - Only one small, plain silver or gold-coloured stud in the bottom of each ear lobe is permitted. If your child is thinking of having a piercing elsewhere in the ear during the holidays, please remember that these take longer to heal and seem to cause more problems due to infection than those in the bottom of the ear lobes.
 - It is strongly advised that pupils do not have these piercings during term time or the shorter holidays as they will not heal before the pupil returns to school. Pupils will be asked to remove any extra studs, without exception or excuse. Other facial piercings, including tongue piercings, are not permitted.
- **Jewellery**
 - Only religious bracelets and/or necklaces will be allowed and with the exception of a pair of earrings no other jewellery will be permitted (including cotton 'friendship bracelets' or elastic 'loom' bracelets/necklaces). Religious necklaces should be worn inside the shirt for safety reasons.
- **Make-up**
 - Make-up, including tinted moisturiser or concealer, is not allowed, this will be strictly enforced.
- **False Nails**
 - Excessively long nails are not suitable for school as they have been known to cause injuries to the pupil, if they become caught or bent backwards during sporting activities. Only natural looking non-coloured false nails are permitted.

- **Hair**
 - Extreme hairstyles are not allowed. Unnatural hair colours are not permitted. Borders and patterns, including a shaved parting, must not be shaved into the hair or eyebrows.
- **Hoodies**
 - Hoodies are not allowed to be worn in, or on the way to, school and can be confiscated.

6. Footwear, socks and tights.

- **Shoes**
 - Shoes should be of plain black leather or leather-type, with plain black soles and black laces. Black suede, fabric or canvas type shoes, boots or trainer type shoes are not permitted. Shoes need to be comfortable enough to walk to school in and suitable to wear in wet weather. In winter, pupils may walk to school in boots, but these should be changed upon arrival at school.
- **Socks and tights**
 - Socks should be plain black; tights should be plain black.

7. Discipline

The Principal has the legal authority to discipline pupils for not wearing correct school uniform (see www.gov.uk/school-discipline-exclusions). In extreme cases a pupil could be excluded for persistently failing to wear school uniform. It is our intention to explore all avenues, through consultation and discussion with parents/carers, to avoid this sanction being taken.

If a pupil arrives at school not wearing the correct uniform, school will endeavour to find the cause and remedy the situation. A letter will be sent home to parents (see Appendix A). Should the problem persist, parents/carers may be invited into school to discuss the situation.

If there is a good reason why a child is not wearing school uniform, in this case, parents and carers should share the reason/s with the principal either in person or by email/letter. The school will always be considerate and discreet in trying to establish why a pupil is not wearing the correct uniform. Pupils will not be made to feel uncomfortable, nor discriminated against. In line with our culture of honest conversation with parents and carers, we encourage discussion with the school at the earliest opportunity if there are any difficulties.

8. Help with cost

If any parent/carer cannot provide their pupil with school uniform because they cannot afford it, financial help may be available. School uniform may include clothes for P.E. The parent/carer should initially talk to the school office.

Letter Examples:

Appendix A:- Standard letter to parents/carers

Appendix B:- Standard letter to parents (P.E.)

Appendix A

Date:

Dear Parent/Carer,

Pupil Name: _____

We noticed that your son/ daughter was not wearing the correct school uniform today. Therefore, we would be grateful if you could ensure that he has the following uniform item/items as soon as possible:

I am sure you will appreciate the many advantages identified with wearing a school uniform as listed in our School Uniform Policy. As the school policy states:

We believe that the wearing of a school uniform enables pupils to identify with their school, gives a sense of belonging, is practical and smart, reinforces a positive work ethos and reduces expenditure for parents/carers.

If there is a problem which prevents you from ensuring your child wears the correct full school uniform, please do not hesitate to contact your child's Learning Director to discuss the situation. We aim to be of assistance in supporting you and your child in fulfilling our requirements.

Thank you for your support regarding this matter.

Yours sincerely,

INSERT SIGNATURE

INSERT NAME

Assistant Principal or Principal

Appendix B

Date:

Dear Parent/Carer

RE: _____

I am writing to inform you that on several occasions, your son/ daughter has failed to bring his/ her PE kit to a number of lessons. Despite being given several warnings the matter is still not resolved. Please ensure your son/ daughter has a PE kit in school on the following days:

Pupils who are injured or are unwell are still required to bring in their full PE kit along with an explanatory note to excuse them from participating. This will enable them to assist in officiating, coaching and supporting others in the lesson. It will also ensure that your son/ daughter fulfils the PE National curriculum expectations and means that he/ she will not get their uniform wet, dirty or possibly damaged, whilst helping out in the lesson. **On no account will your son/ daughter be expected to participate in the practical element of the lesson.**

Your assistance in this matter is much appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

INSERT SIGNATURE

INSERT NAME

Leader of PE