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KESWICK SCHOOL UNIFORM POLICY (KSMAT/STAT/118)

Committee Responsible:	Directors of Multi Academy Trust
Lead Officer:	Headteacher - Keswick School
Date of Review:	July 2026
Date to be Reviewed:	July 2029
Signed: Date:	

KESWICK SCHOOL UNIFORM POLICY

REVIEW SHEET

The information in the table below details earlier versions of this document with a brief description of each review and how to distinguish amendments made since the previous version date.

Version Number	Version Description	Date of Revision
1	Original	July 2024
2	Update to reflect changes in Government guidance	March 2026
3	Amended to include school shorts as permitted uniform for boys and girls	July 2026
4	Further clarification to both appendix 1 and 2 and the inclusion that smart watches are not allowed (paragraph 4.5)	July 2026

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KESWICK SCHOOL UNIFORM POLICY

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KESWICK SCHOOL UNIFORM POLICY

1.0 AIMS

1.1 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.

1.2 School uniform keeps students focused on their education, not their clothes. It also creates a level playing field among students, reducing peer pressure and bullying. Wearing school uniform enhances school pride, unity, and community spirit.

1.3 Parents are expected to send their children into school correctly dressed. Please inform us by telephone or in writing if, for any reason, the appropriate school uniform cannot be worn.

2.0 OUR SCHOOL'S LEGAL DUTIES UNDER THE EQUALITY ACT 2010

2.1 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.

2.2 To avoid discrimination, our school will:

- 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 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 Ms Wendy Lightfoot (Deputy Headteacher/DSL) at the school on 017687 72605 or email admin@keswick.cumbria.sch.co.uk, who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests. These will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

3.0 LIMITING THE COST OF SCHOOL UNIFORM

3.1 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.

3.2 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.

3.2 We will make sure our uniform:

- Is available at a reasonable cost ;
- Provides the best value for money for parents/carers.

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3.3 We will do this by:

- Carefully consider whether any items with distinctive characteristics are necessary;
- Limit any items with distinctive characteristics where possible;
- Limit items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost and/or long-lasting items, such as ties;
- Avoid specific requirements for items pupils can wear on non-school days, such as coats, bags;
- Avoid different uniform requirements for different year groups in Years 7-11;
- Avoid different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities;
- Avoid frequent changes to uniform specifications and minimise the financial impact on parents/carers of any changes;
- Consult parents/carers on any proposed significant changes to the uniform policy and carefully consider any complaints about the policy.

4.0 EXPECTATIONS FOR SCHOOL UNIFORM

4.1 Our School Uniform – Years 7 to 11

4.1.1 A list of Keswick School branded and unbranded items can be found in Appendix 1 for students in Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4 (Years 7 – 11).

4.2 Our School Uniform – Sixth Form

4.2.1 A list of Keswick School branded and unbranded items can be found in Appendix 2 for students in the Sixth Form. Our view is that sixth formers should have a certain degree of flexibility in comparison to main school rules, but we ask that they look neat and tidy, and that any jewellery, makeup and hair styles (including facial hair) are discreet.

4.3 PE kit

4.3.1 *Compulsory (Keswick School branded items)*

- Games top (maroon and bottle green)
- Shorts (black and maroon - boys) or Shorts/Skort (black and maroon - girls)

4.3.2 *Compulsory (Unbranded items)*

- Socks (maroon for outdoor sport)
- Socks (white for indoor sport)
- Football boots (studded) blades are not permitted
- Towel for showering
- Shin pads for hockey and football

4.3.3 *Optional PE kit (Keswick School branded items or plain black unbranded items without logos)*

- Hooded sweatshirt – black/maroon/green
- Tracksuit bottoms – black
- Thermal top/leggings – black
- Showerproof jacket – black/maroon/green
- Rugby shorts – black
- Athletics vest – maroon/black
- Leggings – black

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4.4 Jewellery and Make Up

4.4.1 Year 7 - 11

- Jewellery is restricted to one pair of plain stud earrings for pierced ears and a wristwatch (not an internet enabled smart watch – see paragraph 4.5).
- No other jewellery, fashion belts, charity bands, tattoos, facial or any other visible piercings are allowed. Clear nose studs or other piercings are not allowed.
- Conspicuous make-up or a fake tan is not allowed at school.
- Acrylic nails, false eyelashes and brightly coloured nail polish are not allowed.

4.4.2 Sixth Form

- Facial piercings, including nose studs, are not permitted. Students will be told to remove these.
- Discreet polished nails are permitted although we do not allow long acrylic nails (for health and safety reasons).
- Discreet make-up is permitted but conspicuous fake tan is not allowed.
- False eyelashes and eyelash extensions are not permitted.
- Plain studs or very small hoops are permitted.
- Other jewellery, such as rings or bracelets, must be discreet.
- Tattoos are not permitted.

4.5 Smart Watches

4.5.1 At Keswick School, we are committed to providing a focused, safe, and distraction-free learning environment. In line with the [Department for Education \(DfE\) statutory guidance on Mobile Phones in Schools](#) (which became legally binding on 29 June 2026), our school operates a mobile-free environment by default. The guidance groups internet-enabled smartwatches with smartphones.

4.5.2 This applies to all Year 7-13 students while on the school premises. For the purposes of this policy, "prohibited smart technology" includes:

- All models of smartphones.
- **Internet-enabled smartwatches** (defined as any wearable device capable of sending messages, accessing social media, making calls, or capturing images/video).

4.5.3 Our school operates a strict "**Not Seen, Not Heard, Not Used**" rule from the moment students enter the school gates until the final dismissal bell. This includes all lesson times, registration, class transitions, breaktimes, and lunchtimes.

4.5.4 To ensure transparency regarding wearable devices, smartwatches with internet, messaging, or calling capabilities must be turned off and placed securely out of sight inside the student's school bag before entering the grounds.

4.5.5 School staff have legal authority to enforce this policy under national frameworks, including the Education and Inspections Act 2006 (Sections 91 and 94) and the [DfE Searching, Screening and Confiscation Guidance](#).

4.5.6 If a student is found using a prohibited smartwatch, the school will follow standard procedures:

- The device will be confiscated by staff and placed in a secure location in student reception.
- The incident will be formally recorded on Class Charts.
- Confiscated smart watches will **not** be returned directly to the student. A parent or registered carer must personally visit the school reception to collect the device at the end of the school day, or, by agreement, it will be returned to the student after 1 week.
- Repeated violations will result in after school detentions.

4.5.7 The school recognises that certain exceptions must be made for medical needs. Students who use a continuous glucose monitor (CGM) or other critical health-tracking apps linked to a mobile device or smartwatch will have an agreed Individual Healthcare Plan (IHCP). In these cases, the device must only be used for its designated medical monitoring purpose.

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4.6 Hair

- For safety reasons hair must be tied back during certain activities e.g. PE, work in laboratories/workshops.
- Hair styles must not follow extremes of fashion (i.e. not grade 1 or 2), including colours or extensions.
- Boys must be clean-shaven for school. In the sixth form facial hair should be very closely shaven but we will advise on this if necessary.

4.7 Additional School Items

4.7.1 Outer Garments

This should be weatherproof and in a sensible style (a waterproof/anorak in a plain colour is recommended). Additional items of clothing are not allowed.

4.7.2 School Bag

This is required to bring in books and equipment. Carrying books and equipment in a school blazer is not acceptable.

4.7.3 Canteen Payment Card and Lanyard

This is school uniform. Students must always have the appropriate coloured lanyard and a canteen payment card with them.

4.8 Where to Purchase It

4.8.1 Uniform

School branded items can be purchased from Temple Sports, Keswick shop@templesports.co.uk or 017687 72569. Other school uniform items can be purchased from high street/online retailers.

4.8.2 PE Kit

School branded PE kit is only available at Halbro online shop at <https://www.halbro.com/keswick-school> Tel: 01204 696 476. Other PE kit unbranded items can be purchased from high street/online retailers.

4.8.3 Secondhand Uniform

Secondhand uniform can be borrowed short term from the uniform store in school.

5.0 EXPECTATIONS FOR OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY

5.1 Students

5.1.1 Students 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).

5.1.2 Students are also expected to contact Ms Wendy Lightfoot, Deputy Headteacher, on 017687 72605 or email admin@keswick.cumbria.sch.co.uk if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to their protected characteristics.

5.2 Parents and Carers

5.2.1 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

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5.2.2 Parents/carers are also expected to contact Ms Wendy Lightfoot, Deputy Headteacher, on 017687 72605 or email admin@keswick.cumbria.sch.co.uk if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to:

- Their child's protected characteristics
- The cost of the uniform

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

5.2.4 Disputes about the cost of the school uniform will be:

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

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

5.3 Staff

5.3.1 Staff will closely monitor pupils to make sure they are in correct uniform. 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.

5.3.2 Ongoing breaches of our uniform policy will be dealt with by Ms Wendy Lightfoot, Deputy Headteacher under the School's Behaviour Policy (KSMAT/STAT/044).

5.3.3 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.

5.4 Governors

5.4.1 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

5.4.2 The board will also make sure that the school's uniform supplier arrangements give the highest priority to cost and value for money.

6.0 LINKS TO OTHER POLICIES

6.1 This policy is linked to the following policies:

- Behaviour Policy (including Anti Bullying) (KSMAT/STAT/044)
- Equality Information and Objectives Statement (KSMAT/STAT/007)
- Complaints Policy (KSMAT/STAT/021)

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School Uniform – Years 7 to 11

School uniform keeps students focused on their education, not their clothes. It also creates a level playing field among students, reducing peer pressure and bullying. Wearing school uniform enhances school pride, unity, and community spirit. Parents are expected to send their children into school correctly dressed. Please inform us by telephone or in writing if, for any reason, the appropriate school uniform cannot be worn.

* Only available at Temple Sports, Keswick shop@templesports.co.uk or 017687 72569.

Available from M&S, ASDA, Next and other retailers

BOYS	GIRLS
* <u>Blazer (bottle green)</u> With school badge - (compulsory)	* <u>Blazer (bottle green)</u> With school badge - (compulsory)
* <u>Tie (maroon)</u> Clip on only - (compulsory)	* <u>Tie (maroon)</u> Clip on only - (compulsory)
<u>V-necked woven school jumper (bottle green)</u> <i>optional to be worn under a school blazer, it can be either a:</i> * branded jumper with woven school badge, or # an unbranded jumper	<u>V-necked woven school jumper (bottle green)</u> <i>optional to be worn under a school blazer, it can be either a:</i> * branded jumper with woven school badge, or # an unbranded jumper
<u>Shirt (white)</u> Plain long or short sleeved	<u>Shirt (white)</u> Plain long or short sleeved
<u>School trousers (black) or School shorts (grey)</u> No cords or jeans, they must <u>not</u> be made of denim or denim look fabric. They must <u>not</u> have any embellishments. Trousers must be no shorter than ankle length. Shorts should start just above the knee.	<u>School trousers (black) or School shorts (grey)</u> Straight or slight bootleg style – these must <u>not</u> be leggings, jeggings or tight fitting in any way. They must <u>not</u> be made of denim or denim look fabric. They must <u>not</u> have any embellishments. Trousers must be no shorter than ankle length. Shorts should start just above the knee.
<u>Socks (plain dark colour)</u> Ankle socks – not sport / over-the-knee Plain / Woven Unbranded / no logos	<u>Socks (plain dark colour)</u> To be worn with trousers/shorts Ankle socks – not sport / over-the-knee Plain / Woven Unbranded / no logos
	<u>Skirts (grey)</u> Either A line with one pleat at the front or 2 box pleats front and back (it should be from just above the knee)
	<u>Tights (black)</u> To be worn with skirts

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Shoes (black)

Boys' shoes should be black polished (capable of taking polish) and not suede, canvas or a boot. Shoes should not have trainer style stripes or markings or have any sports tags. They should have a conventional sole and not a chunky trainer type. Please be aware that some shoe shops are selling trainer type shoes as "school shoes" – they are not suitable.

Shoes (black)

Girls' shoes should be sensible and offer appropriate protection to the foot; they must have some form of tread or grip on the sole and should be either flat or a heel no more than 3cm. They should be black and leather or "leather look" i.e. synthetic. They must not be made of canvas or be any sort of trainer, plimsoll or boot.

Summer Uniform

- Short or long-sleeved shirt (white) – a school blazer is not required
- Tie (maroon)
- Socks with skirts instead of tights

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School Uniform – Sixth Form

School uniform keeps students focused on their education, not their clothes. It also creates a level playing field among students, reducing peer pressure and bullying. Wearing school uniform enhances school pride, unity, and community spirit.

Our view is that sixth formers should have a certain degree of flexibility in comparison to main school rules, but we ask that they look neat and tidy, and that any jewellery, makeup and hair styles (including facial hair) are discreet. Sixth Form students are allowed smart watches in school (although these are prohibited in exams) but must only use them strictly according to the school rules and expectations.

* Only available at Temple Sports, Keswick shop@templesports.co.uk or 017687 72569.

BOYS	GIRLS
* <u>V-necked woven school jumper (maroon)</u> With school badge - (compulsory)	* <u>V-necked woven school jumper (maroon)</u> With school badge - (compulsory)
* <u>Tie (maroon and green)</u> Clip on only - (compulsory)	* <u>Tie (maroon and green)</u> Clip on only - (compulsory)
<u>Shirt (white)</u> Plain long or short sleeved	<u>Shirt (white)</u> Plain long or short sleeved
<u>School trousers (black) or School shorts (grey)</u> No cords or jeans, they must <u>not</u> be made of denim or denim look fabric. They must <u>not</u> have any embellishments. Trousers must be no shorter than ankle length. Shorts should start just above the knee.	<u>School trousers (black) or School shorts (grey)</u> Straight or slight bootleg style – these must <u>not</u> be leggings, jeggings or tight fitting in any way. They must <u>not</u> be made of denim or denim look fabric. They must <u>not</u> have any embellishments. Trousers must be no shorter than ankle length. Shorts should start just above the knee.
<u>Socks (plain dark colour)</u> Ankle socks – not sport / over-the-knee Plain / Woven Unbranded / no logos	<u>Socks (plain dark colour)</u> To be worn with trousers/shorts Ankle socks – not sport / over-the-knee Plain / Woven Unbranded / no logos
	<u>Skirts (grey)</u> Either A line with one pleat at the front or 2 box pleats front and back (it should be from just above the knee)
	<u>Tights (black)</u> To be worn with skirts

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Shoes (black)

Boys' shoes should be black polished (capable of taking polish) and not suede, canvas or a boot. Shoes should not have trainer style stripes or markings or have any sports tags. They should have a conventional sole and not a chunky trainer type. Please be aware that some shoe shops are selling trainer type shoes as "school shoes" – they are not suitable.

Shoes (black)

Girls' shoes should be sensible and offer appropriate protection to the foot; they must have some form of tread or grip on the sole and should be either flat or a heel no more than 3cm. They should be black and leather or "leather look" i.e. synthetic. They must not be made of canvas or be any sort of trainer, plimsoll or boot.

Summer Uniform – Sixth Form

- Short or long-sleeved shirt (white) – the school maroon jumper is not required
- Tie (maroon and green)
- Socks with skirts instead of tights

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