David Ross Education Trust

Broadening Horizons

# Academy Uniform, Equipment and Presentation Policy

Skegness Grammar School

SGS

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Part of the David Ross Education Trust

Broadening Horizons

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## 1. Aims

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 sex, race, religion or belief, 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 the way that is appropriate for school yet makes them feel most comfortable.
- Allow pupils to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons.
- Allow pupils to wear headscarves and other religious or cultural symbols.
- Allow for adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking pupils or their parents to get in touch with Lindsey Bee (lbee@skegnessgrammar.co.uk), who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests.

## 3. Limiting the cost of school uniform

At SGS, we believe our school uniform achieves three important goals:

- **Uniform encourages a sense of community identity and pride.** By wearing the same badge and the same clothing, our students show and feel a sense of belonging to Skegness Grammar School. Our community recognises our uniform and knows that those who wear it are ambitious and respectful citizens.
- **Uniform encourages our students to develop habits for life.** By learning to polish their shoes, fold trousers or hang up their blazers, students learn the habits of discipline and personal responsibility that will stay with them for life.
- **Uniform prevents unkindness or bullying while keeping costs down.** By requiring all our

students to wear the same hard-wearing uniform, we reduce the incentive for students to ask parents for the latest (and most expensive) items of fashion. As a result, costs are kept as low as possible and no student can be seen to be poorer or wealthier than any other. This is important to us because we care most about our student's achievements, academia, character and values much more than their appearance.

For our uniform policy to be successful, it must be implemented universally and without exception. Heads of Year, form tutors and classroom teachers will conduct regular daily uniform checks throughout the school day. Our families understand this and support us at home to uphold our high standards.

We understand that, for some families, finances can be challenging. We believe that by doing all we can to keep items of fashion out of school, we help families to keep costs down. Nevertheless, if you do have an individual worry, or you are unsure about an item of clothing, please do not hesitate to contact your child's Head of Year who will deal with your enquiry in the strictest confidence.

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 on the cost of school uniform.

We understand that items with distinctive characteristics (such as branded items or items that have 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' 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 (branded). For example, by only asking that the blazer features the school logo.
- Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost 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.
- Avoiding specific requirements for items pupils could wear on non-school days, such as coats.
- Keeping the number of optional branded items to a minimum, so that the school's uniform can act as a social leveler.
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for different year/class/house groups.
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities.
- Considering alternative methods for signaling differences in groups for inter-school competitions, such as bibs and team kits.
- Making sure that arrangements are in place for parents to acquire second-hand uniform items.
- Avoiding frequent changes to uniform specifications and minimising the financial impact on parents of any changes.
- Consulting with parents and pupils on any proposed significant changes to the uniform policy and carefully considering any complaints about the policy.

# 4. Expectations for school uniform

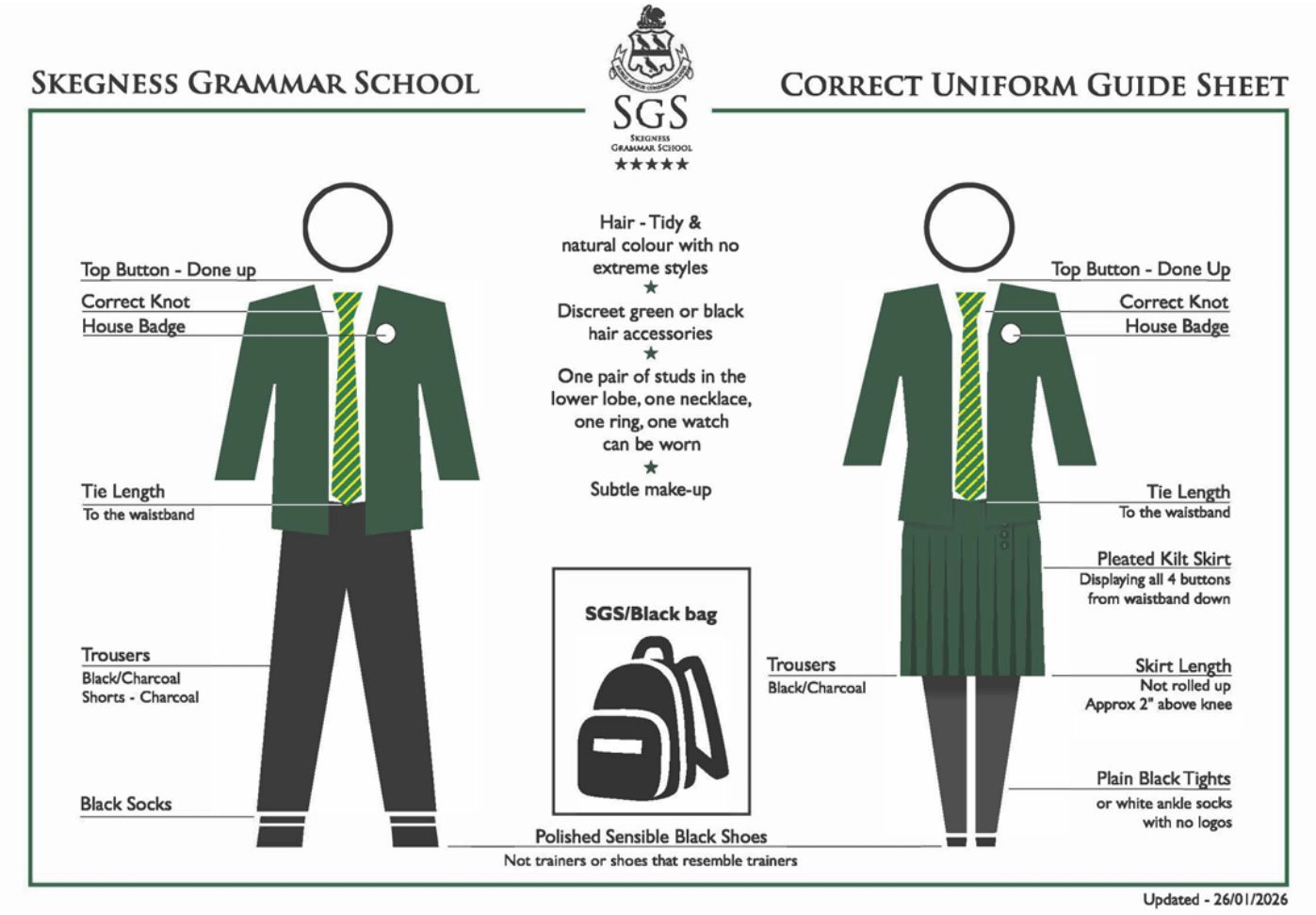
## 4.1 Our school's uniform

## SGS Uniform

### The Purpose of Uniform

Our students wear their uniform proudly, with shirts tucked in, looking smart. We work hard to eradicate fashionable uniform trends, such as having large gaps between trousers and short trainer socks, short skirts, dyed hair, or piercings. These, we realise, may seem minor to many. However, it is worth reminding ourselves that the purpose of uniform is to remove hierarchy, difference, and status as much as we can for our students.

When students can raise their status over others with minor amendments to uniform (blazer sleeves rolled up, skirt shorter than allowed, several piercings) then we allow a culture to develop where appearance is an important part of who students are. The entire reason for having a uniform in a school is to remove that culture. In a great school like ours, students do not focus on what another person looks like, they are much more focused on their personality, character, and ambition.



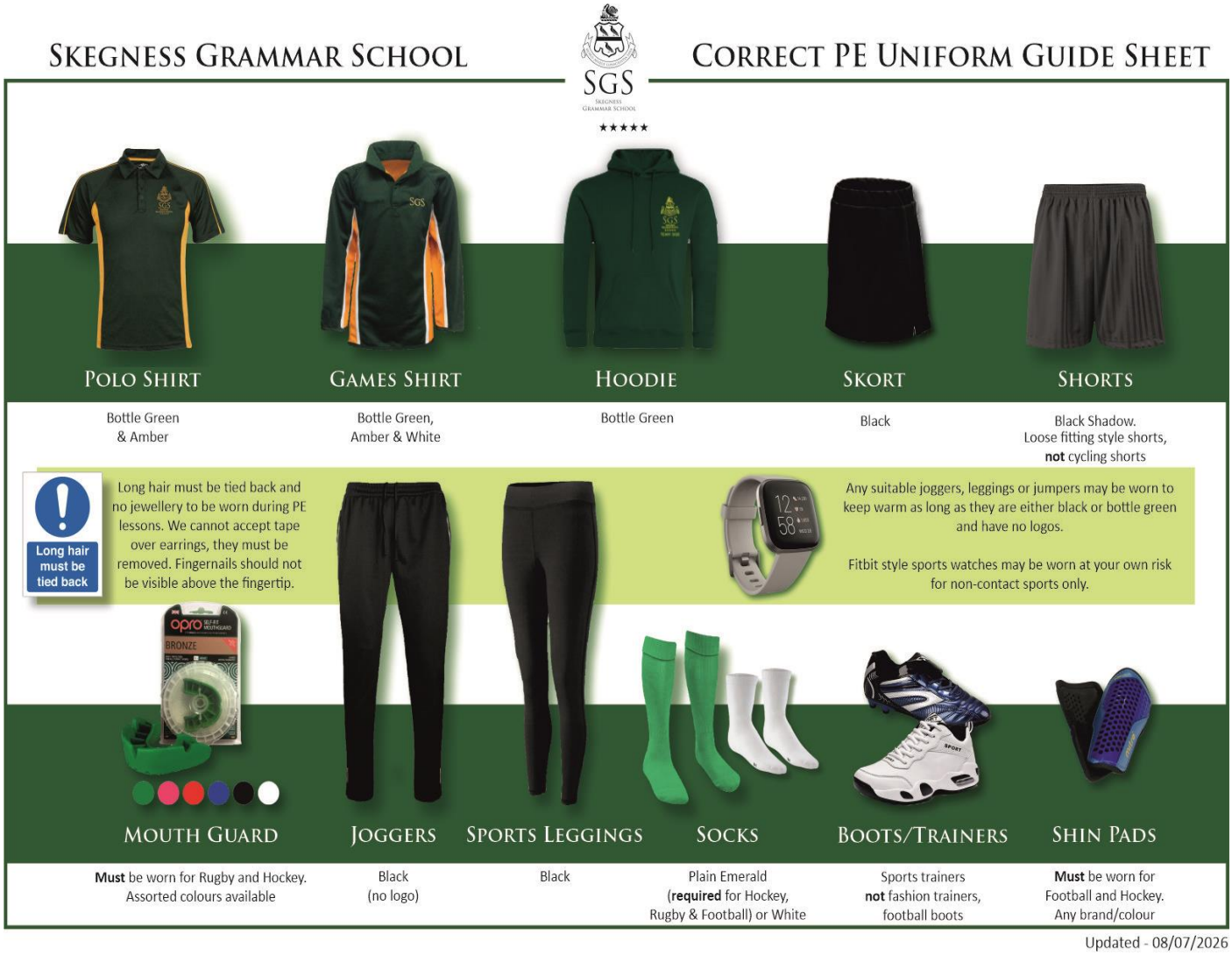
**Uniform List**

- *SGS tie.
- *SGS bottle green blazer.
- *Bottle green pleated skirt.
- Black or charcoal grey trousers.
- Black tights.
- Black socks.
- White shirt/blouse.
- SGS/black school bag.

** compulsory and only available from Price & Buckland.*

**Notes on uniform:**

- At SGS, we allow the rule of one for jewellery. One watch, one ring, one necklace and one pair of plain silver or gold coloured stud earrings in the lobe. We do not allow retainers or any other piercings.
- Students should wear black socks with school trousers.
- Trousers should be tailored; we do not allow leggings, skinny fit, jeans or ankle-grazers.
- Students choosing to wear skirts and socks can wear white ankle socks with no logos.
- Students choosing to wear tailored shorts can wear short black, or ankle, socks with no logos.
- Tie length should be just above the waistband.
- School shoes should not be trainers or shoes that resemble trainers.




Updated - 08/07/2026

**PE kit at Skegness Grammar School**

- *Green polo shirt with SGS logo.
- Black skort or black shorts.
- Green hoodie.
- Joggers (any plain black with no logos).
- Leggings (any plain black with no logos to be worn UNDER skort or shorts).
- Green socks.
- White socks.
- Shin pads.
- Gum shield.
- Suitable trainers.
- Football boots.

** compulsory and only available from Price & Buckland.*

Optional items:

- Games shirt for winter (recommended for Rugby).
- Thermal base layer (any plain black/bottle green with no logos).
- Fleece/jumper/waterproof (any plain black/bottle green with no logos).

**Trousers**

When students wear trousers to school, there must be no gap between their trousers and socks. Trousers should be long enough to touch the student's shoes when standing. However, we recognise that some children will grow quickly. If your child's trousers are not long enough to touch their shoes, their calf-length black socks must be pulled up, so no gap is visible.

Trousers must be straight in style and not tight-fitting in the legs. We do not allow students to wear jeans, cords, leggings, jogging bottoms, jeggings, tracksuit bottoms or pinstripes.

**Socks and tights**

Plain black calf-length socks with no logos must be worn with trousers. They must not be trainer socks or ankle liners. Plain white ankle socks with no logos may be worn with the SGS pleated skirt. Plain short black, or ankle, socks with no logos may be worn with tailored shorts.

**Skirts**

We do not allow students to roll skirts up.

**Blazers**

Blazer sleeves must not be rolled up. We do not allow our students to wear any kind of hooded tops or non-uniform jumpers underneath their blazer. A bottle-green v-neck jumper may be worn beneath the blazer on top of the shirt in colder months.

**Shirts**

Shirts must be clean and white. We do not permit shirts which: are untucked, have the sleeves rolled up, have buttons undone, or which do not fit properly. Students can wear a non-visible plain white vest or t-shirt beneath their shirt if they wish.

**Shoes**

School shoes must be black, flat, and logo-free. The style should be traditional, avoiding the appearance of a trainer. Laces must be black.

Some specific styles that are **not** permitted are:

- Styles that appear to be more like sports trainers than professional black shoes.
- Boots or ankle boots.
- Suede shoes.
- Styles with obvious logos or branding.
- Elaborate buckles, decorations, or patterns.

We recognise school shoes can deteriorate, break, or become outgrown during the school year. Therefore, if your child's shoes become unwearable at short notice, please email the Head of Year to inform them so they can prepare a temporary uniform adjustment pass for your child and agree a date by which they will be replaced. Your child must seek out the Head of Year to be issued with their uniform adjustment pass. Any student without a pass will receive a break reflection. Those proactively resolving the situation will not be given a break reflection.

**Coats**
A practical warm/waterproof coat should be worn in colder months on top of the blazer. All students have lockers to store their coat in, but please do ensure this is clearly labelled with your child's name in case it is lost. We do not permit denim, leather, faux-fur or fur, or coats with affiliations branded upon them.

**Belts**
If a student wears a belt, it must be black, leather (or leather effect), with a small professional buckle and no visible branding.

**Bags**
All students should have a SGS/black bag that is strong, practical and large enough to hold an A4 folder and A4 exercise books comfortably. We advise that families purchase bags with double straps to evenly distribute the weight of books. However, students do have lockers and therefore will only need to carry what they need for the day.

**Jewellery**
At SGS, we allow a maximum of one watch, one ring, one necklace (out of sight), one pair of earrings and one bracelet (Sixth Form only) to be worn if the student chooses to. Any valuable items are worn at the student's own risk and the school do not take any responsibility for any loss or damage.

Students may wear one pair of **small and simple** stud earrings in the lower lobe. If students have other piercings agreed by families, they should be left empty. We do not permit retainers of any kind, including stretchers. All jewellery must be removed for practical subjects as requested.

**Watches**
We encourage students to wear a watch to manage their time. Whilst we do allow smart watches, these devices pose a temptation to be distracted from learning. Ideally students should wear a basic watch to tell the time. If a student does wear a smart watch, notifications must be switched off. If a student uses their smart watch to text, call or use the device inappropriately during the school day, we will treat this as we do mobile phones, we issue a lunch reflection and confiscate the item.

**Confiscation of jewellery**
Students will be instructed to remove items of jewellery not permitted and given a break reflection the first time it happens. If a student persistently falls below our jewellery expectations, their Head of Year will escalate the sanction for persistent excessive jewellery.

**Nails**
Only natural nails are permitted. We do not permit false nails, clear transparent, French, any other colour, glitter, gems or shimmery polish or gel.

**Hair**
Hair is to be neat and tidy, worn in a conventional style. We do not allow extreme colours or styles, extreme differences in length, or unnatural colours. We do not allow students to shave any part of their eyebrows. Any bobbles, bands and clips should be plain green or black in colour with no excessive adornments.

**Headwear**
Kippahs, hijabs, headscarves, turbans and other items may be worn. Where appropriate, these should be black or bottle green in colour with no visible logos or patterns. Pins or clips must be small and black or bottle green in colour with no excessive adornments. Some students may need to wear a sunhat in bright weather; these should be black or bottle green in colour with no visible logos or patterns.

**Optional items**
It gets very cold in Skegness. If students wish to wear additional items to keep warm travelling to or from school they may wear a scarf, gloves, or a woolly hat. Optional items to travel to and from school may not be worn inside the building. A white thermal underlayer top may be worn under the shirt to keep warm.

All items of uniform (including bags and coats) must be clearly marked with the student's full name. Skegness Grammar School takes no responsibility for any items of high value that the student chooses to bring to school at their own risk.

**Discretion**
No uniform policy can cover all eventualities. This document is not exhaustive. Heads of Year will advise on what is and what is not acceptable with regard to uniform. Where there is dispute, the Headteacher's decision on what is or is not acceptable is final.

**Equipment**
We expect students to be equipped for their learning. It is a vital routine in life to be prepared: for example, a solicitor requires the correct papers and a pen to perform their role successfully. If they don't take responsibility, they will fail at their job. Students are learning this responsibility: those who are not equipped for the lesson cause an interruption, which results in broken concentration for staff and students. When repeated numerous times, this has a catastrophic impact on learning and, ultimately, children's life chances.

Form tutors will check equipment daily and record missing equipment with a break reflection. Form tutors do have a small selection of basic equipment that will be loaned to a student in need following a break reflection. However, to avoid a sanction, the school stationery shop will be open at break, the first and last five minutes of lunch and at the end of the day, from the main office, selling inexpensive equipment items.

Students are not permitted to carry or use tip-ex, or any similar brand, because it is very challenging to clean if spilt. We also encourage mistakes as part of the learning process. When a student has thought deeply about something and corrected it, we applaud and celebrate this. Any mistakes can be crossed out with a single ruler-line.

**Students are always expected to carry the following equipment:**

1. One practical pencil case.
2. Two black or blue pens.
3. One purple pen.
4. One 15cm ruler or 30cm ruler.
5. One rubber.
6. One sharpened pencil.
7. Two colours of highlighter pen.
8. One pencil sharpener.
9. One scientific calculator.
10. One dry wipe slim whiteboard pen. (Initially provided by SGS in Sept 2026. Replacements supplied by student families).
11. One mini whiteboard. (Initially provided by SGS in Sept 2026. Replacements supplied by student families).
12. One whiteboard rubber. (Initially provided by SGS in Sept 2026. Replacements supplied by student families).
13. One reading book (collected and loaned for free from the school library and compulsory from 08.09.2026 to allow students time to visit and select their book).

## 4.2 Where to purchase it

**Uniform and PE kit suppliers**

- Price and Buckland Schoolwear: https://www.pbuniform-online.co.uk/skegnessgrammar
  Website: https://price-buckland.co.uk/
  Benneworth Close
  Hucknall
  Nottingham
  NG15 6EL
  Phone Number: 0115 759 1416

- **Second Hand Uniform**: Winnies Community Lounge
  Winthorpe Road, off Roman Bank. Open Monday – Thursday (10:00 – 15:00).
  All uniform is free of charge as they are a registered Charity @Winthorpe Community Partnership. The shop holds a stock of SGS uniform and they welcome donations of our uniform and any school wear. E.g., coats/shoes. All uniform items are given out for FREE.
  Contact: Jodi – jodibrad80@hotmail.com
  Phone number: 07738 997000

**Average cost of uniform per pupil**

| UNIFORM ITEM | BRANDED | COST PER ITEM (£) | NUMBER OF ITEMS PER PUPIL | TOTAL COST (£) | BRANDED ITEMS COST (£) | GIRLS COST (£) | BOYS COST (£) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Blazer | Yes | £ 27.45 | 1 | £27.45 | £27.45 | £27.45 | £27.45 |
| Tie | Yes | £ 6.00 | 1 | £6.00 | £6.00 | £6.00 | £ 6.00 |
| Black socks | No | £ 4.75 | 3 pairs | £4.75 | | £4.75 | £4.75 |
| Green V-neck jumper | No | £14.75 | 1 | £14.75 | | £14.75 | £14.75 |
| White shirt | No | £15.75 | 2 | £31.50 | | £31.50 | £31.50 |
| Boys trousers | No | £15.50 | 3 | £46.50 | | | £46.50 |
| Girls trousers | No | £15.50 | 3 | £46.50 | | | |
| Kilt | Yes | £28.00 | 1 | £28.00 | £28.00 | £28.00 | |
| Tights | No | £6.45 | 3 | £19.35 | | £19.35 | |

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| PE shirt | Yes | £13.50 | 1 | £13.50 | £13.50 | £13.50 | £13.50 |
| Games shirt (Rugby) | Yes | £17.50 | 1 (optional) | £17.50 | £17.50 | | |
| PE shorts | No | £6.80 | 1 | £6.80 | | £6.80 | £6.80 |
| PE skort | No | £10.95 | 1 (optional) | £10.95 | | | |
| PE hoodie | Yes | £14.00 | 1 | £14.00 | £14.00 | £14.00 | £14.00 |
| PE leggings | No | £12.25 | 1 (optional) | £12.25 | | | |
| PE joggers | No | £16.00 | 1 (optional) | £16.00 | | | |
| Green PE socks | No | £4.70 | 1 pair | £4.70 | | £4.70 | £ 4.70 |
| Shin pads | No | £10.50 | 1 | £10.50 | | £10.50 | £10.50 |
| Mouth guard | No | £13.10 | 1 | £13.10 | | £13.10 | £13.10 |
| Black school shoes | No | £33.00 | 1 | £33.00 | | £33.00 | £33.00 |
| Trainers (suitable for sports hall as well as outdoor) | No | £30.00 | 1 | £30.00 | | £30.00 | £30.00 |
| Football boots | No | £40.00 | 1 | £40.00 | | £40.00 | £40.00 |
| SGS Backpack | Yes | £12.00 | 1 | £12.00 | £12.00 | £12.00 | £12.00 |
| PE kit bag | No | £ 6.00 | 1 | £6.00 | | £6.00 | £ 6.00 |
| Boot bag | No | £7.00 | 1 (optional) | £7.00 | | | |
| Total Cost | | | | | £118.45 | £315.40 | £314.55 |

## 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).

### 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 are also expected to contact lbee@skegnessgrammar.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.

Parents 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 to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.

### 5.3 Staff

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 Headteacher if the situation doesn't improve.

Ongoing breaches of our uniform policy will be dealt with by the student's Head of Year.

In cases where it is suspected that financial hardship has resulted in a pupil not complying with the uniform policy, staff will take a mindful and considerate approach to resolving the situation.

### Incorrect uniform

If we see a student wearing their uniform incorrectly (e.g., student has an untucked shirt), staff will politely insist on the student fixing their uniform immediately. After 08:40, a break reflection will be given by the staff member to support the student to remember to wear their uniform correctly and with pride.

If a student is wearing inappropriate clothing that is not SGS uniform (e.g., student is wearing a hooded sweatshirt), staff will politely insist the student removes the item of clothing. After 08:40, a break reflection will be given by the staff member to support the student to remember to wear their uniform correctly and with pride.

If a student is wearing uniform that is unsuitable (e.g., student is wearing trainers), we give them temporary uniform to wear. The pastoral team have a wide selection of clean uniform items such as blazers, shirts, skirts, ties, trousers and shoes available for loan. If a student is not wearing the correct uniform, the school will support this by providing alternatives. A break reflection will be given by the staff member to support the student to remember to wear their uniform correctly and with pride.

We expect students to work with us in resolving their uniform by trying on the items to borrow for the day. If a student refuses to try on an appropriate item, or wear a well-fitting item, the student will be required to go to the ILC for the remainder of the day because we do not accept defiance at SGS. A member of staff will contact home to resolve the uniform issue as soon as possible. If the school does not hold an appropriate size or a specific piece of uniform to rectify the issue, an alternative solution will be found and families will be contacted to support the school and the student to correct the uniform concern.

If a student persistently falls below our uniform expectations, their Head of Year will escalate sanctions for persistent defiance of our uniform policy.

### 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 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 annually by Lindsey Bee (Assistant Headteacher).

## 7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

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

### 7.1 Presentation

We take pride in our work at SGS, therefore the following rules on presentation of exercise and prep books are in place:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| P | Purple pen for corrections | Use a purple pen to improve and edit your work clearly |
| R | Ruler to underline | Underline titles and all headings or subheadings neatly using a ruler |
| A | Avoid wasting paper | Draw a line across the page under previous work, and use space sensibly |
| C | Clear title and date | Always write the date and a clear title, underlined with a ruler at the top of your work |
| T | Tidy layout | Keep your pages and your books organised, structured and loved. |
| I | Invest your best | Show pride in your work, - effort is always visible! |
| C | Correct mistakes neatly | Use a single line to cross out and correct with care. |
| E | Edit for grammar and punctuation | Always check and correct your grammar, spelling and punctuation. |

| Review date | Reviewed by | Date of next review |
|---|---|---|
| January 2023 | LBE | September 2023 |
| September 2023 | LBE | September 2024 |
| September 2024 | LBE | January 2025 |
| January 2025 | LBE | September 2025 |
| September 2025 | LBE | September 2026 |
| September 2026 | LBE | September 2027 |