TAPESTRY LEARNING PARTNERSHIP

Uniform Policy

Department:	Education
Policy Owner:	Chief Education Officer
Date of issue:	May 2026
Date revised:	September 2026
Next review date:	May 2028

Revision History

Version	Date	Author	Summary of changes

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1.0 Purpose

This policy sets out the expectations for school uniform across all schools/academies within Tapestry Learning Partnership (Tapestry). It ensures that uniform requirements are:

- **Clear, fair, and consistently applied**
- **Affordable and value for money**, in line with DfE statutory guidance on the cost of school uniforms
- Supportive of **high standards of behaviour, identity, and belonging**
- Compliant with the **Equality Act 2010**, ensuring no child or young person is disadvantaged or discriminated against

Each school/academy will publish an appendix with its specific uniform items, colours, and suppliers, but all must follow the principles in this Tapestry-wide policy.

The content of the appendix will also be available on each school/academy website and communicated with parents and carers through other additional mediums.

2.0 Roles and Responsibilities

Role	Responsibility
Trust Board	• Ensures compliance with DfE statutory guidance • Monitors affordability and accessibility across academies
Headteachers/ Principals	• Implement this policy within their school/academy • Ensure uniform expectations are reasonable and inclusive • Communicate changes clearly and with sufficient notice

3.0 Principles

All Tapestry schools/academies ensure that their uniform:

- Is **affordable**, with branded items kept to a minimum and offer **good value**
- Is available from **multiple retailers** wherever possible
- Does not require unnecessary or expensive items
- Is **inclusive**, allowing for reasonable adjustments for:
    - Religious beliefs
    - Cultural identity
    - Disability or medical needs
    - Gender expression
- Supports **safeguarding**, ensuring children and young people can be easily identified
- Promotes a sense of **pride and belonging**

4.0 Affordability and Branded Items

In line with DfE statutory guidance:

- Branded items will be **kept to the minimum required for identification**
- Schools/academies must **not** require expensive or bespoke items unless essential
- Uniform lists must clearly distinguish between:
    - **Compulsory items, including for PE and sports**
    - **Optional items**
    - **Branded items**
    - **Generic items available from supermarkets or high-street retailers**
- Second-hand uniform provision must be available at each school/academy, with:
    - Regular sales or swap events
    - Clear information for families on how to access items

5.0 Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

Tapestry is committed to ensuring uniform requirements do not discriminate against any child or young person.

Reasonable adjustments will be made for:

- **Religious dress** (e.g., hijabs, turbans, modesty wear)
- **Cultural dress**
- **Gender identity or expression**
- **Disability or medical needs** (e.g., adapted footwear, sensory-friendly options)

Requests for adjustments will be considered sensitively and individually.

6.0 Expectations for Children and Young People

Children and young people are expected to:

- Wear the correct uniform every day
- Maintain a neat and tidy appearance
- Follow school/academy-specific rules on:
    - Jewellery
    - Hairstyles
    - Makeup

- Footwear
- PE kit

Schools/academies must ensure these expectations are **reasonable, proportionate, and inclusive**.

7.0 Expectations for Parents and Carers

Parents and carers are expected to:

- Ensure their child/young person attends the school/academy in the correct uniform
- Communicate with the school/academy if financial or other difficulties arise
- Access second-hand uniform where appropriate
- Support the school/academy in maintaining high standards of presentation

8.0 Non-Compliance

Where a child or young person is not in correct uniform:

- Staff will assess the reason behind this and address issue sensibly
- Where appropriate, the school/academy will work with families to resolve the issue
- Sanctions will **not** be used where non-compliance is due to:
  - Financial hardship
  - SEND
  - Religious or cultural reasons
  - Other protected characteristics

Persistent, deliberate non-compliance may be addressed through the school/academy's behaviour policy.

9.0 Consultation and Review

Schools/academies will consult with parents, children & young people, and staff before making significant changes to uniform requirements.

Changes will be communicated at least **one academic term in advance.**

This policy will be reviewed **every two years** or sooner if DfE guidance changes

10.0 Monitoring and Compliance

Tapestry will monitor:

- Cost and availability of uniform items

- Feedback from families
- Equality impact
- Supplier performance

Schools/academies must ensure uniform expectations remain fair, affordable, and inclusive.

Appendix A: City of Derby Academy

School uniform items:

- City of Derby Academy or plain black Jumper
- Smart black trousers or skirt (sensible length Skirt and not stretchy material)
- Plain white school shirt (not a polo shirt)
- City of Derby Academy tie
- Sensible black footwear (no coloured logos)

PE kit items:

- City of Derby Academy PE Jumper or plain black jumper
- City of Derby Academy polo shirt
- City of Derby Academy PE top or plain black t-shirt
- Plain black tracksuit bottoms, Black leggings or black PE shorts
- Black trainer
- Black PE socks

Parents/ carers can order uniform directly from our supplies by visiting the website below:
City of Derby Academy – School's In (schoolsinuniform.co.uk)

If parents/ cares you would like to purchase any of the sports kit, they should visit **www.lisssport.co.uk**

The information below is provided to support parents/ carers are experiencing barriers to their child/young person being able to wear the correct uniform:

Primary Support: Derby Food 4 Thought Alliance (DF4TA)

School Uniform Hub

Free or heavily subsidized uniform available through the annual appeal. Families offered items at a small voluntary donation (suggested £2–£5), but no one is turned away if unable to contribute.

What's available:

Jumpers and sweatshirts
Two polo shirts or shirts
Trousers or skirts
PE kits, coats and school shoes (where stock allows)

How to access:
Apply via the DF4TA self-referral portal on their website
Schools and partners can also refer families on your behalf

Contact:
Phone: 01332 346266
Email: info@df4ta.com
Website: www.derbyfood4thoughtalliance.org.uk

Second-hand uniform options:
Facebook uniform swap groups – Local groups for Derby where families buy and sell second-hand items

Online marketplaces – Facebook Marketplace, Gumtree and Next Door often have school uniform available
Your school – Derby Cathedral School and others hold small supplies of laundered, donated second-hand uniforms. Check with your school.

Safety tips for online purchases:

Use marketplace messaging systems (not personal contact)
Buy from local sellers only
Check item descriptions carefully before purchasing
Be respectful and courteous with sellers

Financial support routes:

Pupil Premium
If your child is entitled to pupil premium, they may be eligible for uniform support. Contact your school directly to discuss this.

School Discretionary Funds
Schools can use discretionary government funding to support families on low income with clothing costs. Ask your child's school.

Community Banks
Derbyshire Community Bank and Chesterfield Credit Union offer affordable "Family Loans" allowing borrowing against Child Benefit.

Community support
Derby City Council's Community Hubs provide localized support including benefit advice and, in some cases, direct school uniform support. Ask your local Community Hub what support is available in your area.