Albrighton Primary School and Nursery

School Uniform Policy

Date: March 2026
Review cycle: Annual
Applies to: All pupils, including Nursery
Based on: DfE school uniform guidance (updated Nov 2025) and statutory guidance on cost of school uniforms (updated Oct 2025), Equality Act 2010, and Human Rights Act 1998. [gov.uk]

1. Policy Principles

Albrighton Primary School and Nursery believes that school uniform can:

- Promote a sense of belonging, community and shared identity. [gov.uk]
- Support positive behaviour, wellbeing and readiness to learn.
- Reduce peer pressure and associated anxieties around clothing choices.

However, the school also recognises that uniform must be **affordable**, **comfortable**, **flexible**, and **inclusive**, especially for pupils with **SEND** and/or **trauma histories**, and those with **high needs**.

Updated guidance highlights the importance of reviewing what **flexibilities, adjustments or alternatives** might mitigate any negative impact on SEND pupils. [paccshrops...ire.org.uk]

The school will ensure compliance with:

- **Equality Act 2010** and duties regarding reasonable adjustments
- **Human Rights Act 1998**
- **Statutory cost-of-uniform requirements**, including limiting branded items from September 2026.

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2. Key Commitments (Legal & Guidance Compliance)

In line with statutory developments:

- The school will require **no more than 3 branded items**, in line with planned national limits.
- Cost will be minimised through allowing supermarket-purchased generic items wherever possible.
- Second-hand uniform will be made easily accessible to families.
- Uniform policies will be co-produced with parents, including SEND parent/carer representation, as recommended by updated guidance.

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3. Trauma-Informed & SEND-Sensitive Uniform Expectations

Recognising sensory needs, trauma responses and emotional-regulation difficulties, the school will implement a **flexible, compassionate approach**, including:

3.1 Adjustments and Flexibility

Parents/carers may request adjustments for reasons including sensory sensitivity, physical disability, medical conditions, autistic spectrum differences, mental health needs, or

trauma-related triggers.
Examples of approved adjustments include:

- Soft-waistband trousers or joggers
- Seam-free or soft socks
- Alternative footwear if needed for sensory or orthopaedic reasons
- Wearing layers to support emotional regulation
  Updated guidance explicitly recommends considering whether items of clothing could create challenges for SEND pupils and adopting more comfortable or less restrictive options. [paccshrops...ire.org.uk]

3.2 Non-punitive, Needs-Based Approach

Pupils will **never** be punished, shamed, or excluded from learning because of uniform issues. Consideration will always be given to:

- Difficult mornings or dysregulation
- Family circumstances
- Trauma-related triggers
- Sensory overload

School staff will use restorative, relationship-based strategies rather than sanctions.

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4. Required Uniform (Max 3 branded items)

To comply with affordability expectations and planned national legislation limiting branded items: [schoolwear...ited.co.uk]

4.1 Core Uniform

There is no stipulation in our uniform policy for any item to be branded

- *Navy school sweatshirt or cardigan (generic or branded)*
- Pale blue polo shirt (generic or branded)
- Grey trousers, skirt or pinafore (generic)
- Plain black school shoes or suitable alternatives approved for SEND reasons (generic)

4.2 PE Kit

- Plain white t-shirt
- Plain navy or black shorts/joggers
- Trainers or plimsolls (including SEND-appropriate footwear)

No branded PE kit items will be required.There is also an expectation that children can remove their own stud earrings for PE but if they are unable to then earrings must be covered in micropore tape (which we can supply).

- This is not necessary for swimming.

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5. Jewellery, Hair & Accessories (Inclusive & Safe)

- Hair can be worn in any style that is safe and does not obscure vision or create hazards.
- Cultural, religious or sensory-support items (e.g., head coverings, sensory jewellery) are permitted unless they present a verified safety risk.
- Minimal jewellery for safety: studs only, unless a sensory/medical exception is needed.

These rules are aligned with principles of respecting identity, culture and wellbeing reflected in recent uniform guidance.

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6. Support for Families

The school will:

- Operate a **second-hand uniform scheme** to reduce costs. This is easily accessible available to all parents. [educationh…log.gov.uk]
- Allow families to request assistance discreetly and without stigma.
- Provide support when families cannot immediately meet uniform expectations due to financial or personal hardship.

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7. Consultation & Co-Production

The policy will be developed and reviewed in partnership with:

- Parents and carers, including SEND family groups
- Pupils
- Governors

This aligns with DfE recommendations for community engagement in uniform policy development.

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8. Monitoring & Review

The Governing Body will review this policy yearly to ensure:

- Compliance with statutory guidance and new legislation
- Affordability
- Inclusivity for SEND and trauma-impacted pupils
- Ongoing feedback from families and staff