



## **Uniform Policy**

The Governors and staff of Lowton Church of England High School are committed to the provision of a high quality education in a Christian context. We aim to provide a school where we can live out our ethos of Caring, Learning and Succeeding on a daily basis. At the heart of the commitment is the notion of the uniqueness and infinite worth of the individual, that every person is valuable in the eyes of God

It This policy has been produced in accordance with the Children's Wellbeing and Schools Act 2026, the Education (Guidance about Costs of School Uniforms) Act 2021 and its associated statutory guidance, Cost of school uniforms, and the Equality Act 2010. It has been reviewed in accordance with all other school policies and related Acts

**Approved by Governing Body**

|                            |                          |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Date effective from</b> | September 2026           |
| <b>Date of next review</b> | September 2027           |
| <b>Review period</b>       | 1 Year – Transition Year |
| <b>Status</b>              | Statutory                |
| <b>Person responsible</b>  | Heather Clare            |
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## *Introduction and Rationale*

*Ensuring students attend school dressed smartly is the foundation for high standards in all aspects of school life, including behaviour and a positive attitude to learning.*

*All students are expected to wear the school uniform. There are strong social reasons for having a uniform: it promotes pride in appearance and in the school community, it supports equality by reducing competition in dress, and it helps to maintain clear and consistent expectations. Our uniform has been designed to be smart, practical and affordable for families.*

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## *Legislative and Statutory Context*

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This policy reflects the school's duties under current legislation and statutory guidance:

- The Children's Wellbeing and Schools Act 2026, which from September 2026 limits the number of compulsory branded items of uniform and PE kit a school may require to three or fewer, or to four or fewer at secondary level where one item is a tie.
- The Education (Guidance about Costs of School Uniforms) Act 2021 and its statutory guidance, Cost of school uniforms, which require the school to secure the best value for money, to make second-hand uniform readily available, and to avoid single-supplier arrangements wherever possible.
- The Equality Act 2010, under which the school will make reasonable adjustments and will not discriminate on the basis of any protected characteristic.

### **Compliance with the branded-items limit**

The school's compulsory branded items fall within the statutory limit. The standard plain black trousers are unbranded and may be purchased from a range of retailers. The 'Lowton' branded skirt is offered only as an optional transitional item until July 2027 (see Section 5); pupils are always able to choose the unbranded plain black trousers instead, and so the branded skirt is not a compulsory item and does not count towards the limit.

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## *Main School Uniform*

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All students, in all year groups, will wear:

- Lowton High School branded jumper
- Plain blue shirt, worn correctly
- School year-group tie, purchased from school and worn correctly
- Plain black tailored trousers
- Black formal school shoes

**Blazers are no longer part of the school uniform**

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## *Required Uniform and Uniform Standards*

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### **Trousers**

- Trousers must be plain black, tailored, straight-leg trousers.
- No school logo is required.
- Skinny, flared, bootcut, low-rise and legging-style trousers are not permitted
- Lycra and Jersey material is not permitted

| Standard Uniform Trousers                                                                                                                      | Trousers that are not permitted                                                                                                                                                     |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                             |                                                                                                 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Standard or slim black uniform trousers</li><li>• Front fastening</li><li>• No logo required</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Skinny trousers</li><li>• Flared trousers</li><li>• Bootcut trousers</li><li>• Low-rise trousers</li><li>• Legging-style trousers</li></ul> |

### Skirts and Transition Arrangements

- ***Pupils in Year 7 must not wear skirts.***
- Pupils in Years 8 to 11 may wear the standard 'Lowton' branded skirt until July 2027. The skirt must be worn at or just above the knee.
- This decision allows for a transition year, reducing the cost to parents of having to buy new uniform for September 2026.
- We encourage parents not to buy replacement skirts, but to move over to trousers when the current skirt needs replacing.
- Skirts must be worn rolled down and at or just above the knee. Any pupil whose skirt is rolled up, or is deemed too short, will be required to wear trousers and will no longer be permitted to wear a skirt. The school reserves the right to determine reasonably what is too short.

**From September 2027, all students must wear plain black trousers.**

### Shirts and Ties

- Shirts must be plain blue and worn tucked in.
- Ties must be worn correctly at all times.
- All students wear a year-group coloured tie, purchased from school

#### Year-group tie colours (2026–27)

| Year group | Tie colour |
|------------|------------|
| Year 7     | Purple     |
| Year 8     | Yellow     |
| Year 9     | Green      |
| Year 10    | Red        |
| Year 11    | Blue       |

### Socks and Tights

- Plain black or grey socks or tights only.
- No patterns, bows, lace or visible branding.
- Socks and tights should not be worn together.
- Socks and tights must be appropriate for school wear.

### Shoes

Smart black leather or patent leather shoes without a logo only. No sportswear branded footwear is allowed. Trainers, boots, canvas or leather pumps are not acceptable. Please check with school if you are unsure about what to buy.

In the event of extreme bad weather, school will advise parents. If a student arrives in inappropriate footwear, they will be provided with temporary black footwear or sent home to change.

### Outdoor Coats

Outdoor coats should be sensible and suitably protective. They should be at least hip length and suitably moderate, both in style and in cost. Bright colours, leather, leather-look, denim and coats bearing large motifs are not acceptable.

Students are not allowed to wear jackets, tracksuit tops, cardigans, gilets or body warmers, hooded sweatshirts, wind breakers, or zip-up hooded tops as a substitute for uniform. Coats are not to be worn inside the building or during lessons. If unsure, please ask school and a decision will be made.

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## *Personal Presentation*

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### Hairstyles

- Hairstyles should be appropriate for school. Extreme hairstyles, including markings in the hair, are not permitted.
- Hair colour should be natural. Bright colours, such as red, pink, blue or purple, are not allowed.
- The minimum length for haircuts is a number 1.

### Make-up

- Natural, light make-up may be worn discreetly.
- Noticeable false eyelashes, heavy black eye make-up, mascara and blusher are not allowed.
- The school will have the final decision in determining whether make-up is discreet.

### Jewellery

- One watch only may be worn. This cannot be a smart watch.
- No earrings, studs or body piercings, including tongue piercings, are allowed.
- Students will be asked to remove jewellery and may be sent home. Items will be confiscated and returned at the end of the day. Any further occurrences will result in parents being asked to come into school to collect the item.

### Nails

- Nail polish and false nails are not permitted, and students will be asked to clean or remove them.

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## *Physical Education (PE) Kit*

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### **Compulsory PE kit**

- Socks
- One option from shorts, leggings or tracksuit pants
- T-shirt

### **Additional items**

- Quarter-zip top
- Hooded top
- Rain jacket

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## *Affordability, Pre-owned uniforms Uniform and Stockists*

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The school is committed to keeping the cost of uniform reasonable and to securing the best value for money for families. Opportunities to acquire good-quality, pre-loved uniform are made freely available to all parents; details can be found on the Support with Uniform page of the school website. Families experiencing financial hardship are encouraged to contact school in confidence.

### **Local stockists of uniform**

- Impressions, 116 Golborne Enterprise Park, Golborne, WA3 3GR. Telephone: 01942 587487.
- BL5 Schoolwear, Unit H9–H12, Spinning Gate Market, Leigh, WN7 4PG. Telephone: 01942 367940.
- Rainbow Uniforms, 87–89 Bradshawgate, Leigh, WN7 4ND. Telephone: 01942 609447.
- Jaymax, 1 Gas Street, Leigh, WN7 4PD. Telephone: 01942 682984.
- Slaters, Eckersley Mill, Swan Meadow Road, Wigan, WN3 5BD. Telephone: 01942 244426.

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## *Equality, Inclusion and Reasonable Adjustments*

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This policy applies to all pupils and is implemented in line with the Equality Act 2010. The school will make reasonable adjustments to its uniform requirements where appropriate, including in relation to disability, religion or belief, gender reassignment, and any sensory or medical need. Requests should be made to the school, which will consider each case sympathetically and individually. This policy should be read alongside the school's Equality Policy and SEND Policy



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### *Monitoring, Enforcement and Related Policies*

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Staff meet and greet pupils at the start of each day, which sets the tone and expectations for the day ahead. Our expectation is that all pupils will enter and leave the school premises every day with their uniform meeting the school's standards. Breaches of the uniform policy are addressed calmly and in a non-confrontational manner, in line with the school's graduated approach to behaviour.

This policy should be read in conjunction with the Behaviour Policy, the Equality Policy and the SEND Policy.