



## King's Academy Ringmer - Uniform Policy

**Date:** reviewed in September 2021, reviewed in July 2023, July 2024 and July 2025

**Review date:** July 2026

### **Purpose**

This policy aims to:

- set out our approach to requiring a uniform that is practical for everyday use, of reasonable cost and offers the best value for money for parents and carers.
- clarify our expectations for our school uniform.
- communicate to parents and carers the expectation that they support the school in ensuring that their child is supplied with, and wears, the full school uniform.
- to communicate how the school will enforce the uniform policy.

### **Principles**

- KAR believes that a school uniform should be practical for everyday use, provide value for money, and not be determined by changes in fashion.
- KAR believes that the wearing of a school uniform prepares students for employment where dress codes are often expected and enforced.
- KAR believes that the wearing of a school uniform helps students identify with the school and promote community and belonging.
- KAR believes that a school uniform helps to promote equality.
- KAR believes that the uniform policy should apply at all times when wearing the uniform, for example both inside and outside of the school when representing the school in the community.

### **Links to other policies**

This policy is linked to our:

- Behaviour for learning and rewards policy
- Equality information and objectives statement
- Anti-bullying policy
- Complaints policy

## **Our school uniform**

### **Compulsory and optional items**

In anticipation of upcoming legislation from September 2026 uniform items are split into two categories; compulsory and optional. The proposed legislation includes a requirement that schools must limit branded items to no more than 3 excluding the school tie. An asterisk (\*) has been used to identify the 3 items.

**School branded compulsory and optional uniform can be purchased online from Monkhouse School Wear Specialists:**

<https://www.monkhouse.com/school/king-s-academy-ringmer-urn-144505>

### **Uniform types**

KAR Students have the option of either a **skirt uniform** or a **trouser uniform**.

## Skirt uniform

### Compulsory Items



### Uniform

- KAR skirt\*.
- Black blazer, with embroidered Logo. A plain black 3 button blazer can be bought and a separate badge can be bought from the school, in preference to buying the logoed blazer from the schools preferred supplier.
- White shirt, either short or long sleeved, with a collar.
- Branded school tie.
- Plain black tights or black socks only. Socks and tights are not to be worn together i.e. socks over tights. Socks should be plain black and not branded. Knee length socks are not permitted.
- Leggings are not permitted.
- Plain black and polishable shoes with no visible branding or logos. Further detailed clarification of allowable footwear, including images, can be found in the “**Examples of acceptable footwear**” section below.

### PE Kit



- PE Polo Shirt with School Logo\*
- PE Shorts with School Logo\* or Skort with School Logo.
- Plain unbranded navy blue PE socks.
- Shin pads
- Gum shield
- Plain black non logged T-Shirt (for dance)
- Swimwear
- Trainers
- Football boots (1x pair of Astro turf boot are suitable to be used indoors/ 3g and field)

## **Optional Items**

### Uniform



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Branded plain black v-next jumper with school logo, or plain black knitted v-neck jumper.

### PE Kit



- PE Fleece with School Logo.
- PE leggings with School Logo.
- Training pants with School Logo.
- Dance T-Shirt with Logo.

### Outdoor wear

During the winter and autumn term students are permitted to bring an outdoor coat to school, which can be worn outside but not in the corridors.

Hooded tops worn over or under blazers are not permitted. To clarify, a hooded top is defined as non-waterproof and may be a jumper style or with a zip at the front.

Scarves, gloves and knitted hats are permitted for the journey to and from school but not to be worn on the school site.

Any other hats such as, but not limited to, baseball or trucker caps are prohibited in school.

It would be advisable for students to wear **high visibility reflective arm bands** or equivalent over their outerwear on journeys to and from school in the winter.

## Trouser uniform

### Compulsory Items

#### Uniform



- Black formal suit style trousers (**no jeans, chinos, sweatpants, leggings, jeggings etc.**) **or Pleated Kilt – for all year groups**
- Black blazer, with embroidered Logo. A plain black 3 button blazer can be bought and a separate badge can be bought from the school, in preference to buying the logoed blazer from the schools preferred supplier.
- White shirts, either short or long sleeved, with a collar
- School tie \*
- Plain black socks only. Socks should be plain black and not branded.
- Plain black and polishable shoes with no visible branding or logos.

#### PE kit



- PE Polo Shirt with School Logo.\*
- PE Shorts with School Logo.\*
- Plain unbranded navy blue PE socks.
- Shin pads
- Gum shield
- Plain black non logged T-Shirt (for dance)
- Swimwear (1x piece swimsuit- dependent on pool timetable this will be communicated at a later date)

## ***Optional Items***

### Uniform



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Branded plain black v-neck jumper with school logo, or plain black knitted v-neck jumper.

### PE Kit



- PE Fleece with School Logo.
- Training pants with School Logo.
- Dance T-Shirt with Logo.

### Outdoor wear

During the winter and autumn term students are permitted to bring an outdoor coat to school, which can be worn outside but not in the corridors. However hooded tops worn over or under blazers are not permitted and will be confiscated. To clarify, a hooded top is defined as non-waterproof and may be a jumper style or with a zip at the front.

Scarves, gloves and knitted hats are permitted for the journey to and from school but not to be worn on the school site. If a student is wearing an item on the school site, it will be confiscated.

Any other hats such as, but not limited to, baseball or trucker caps are prohibited in school and will be confiscated.

It would be advisable for students to wear **high visibility reflective arm bands** or equivalent over their outerwear on journeys to and from school in the winter.

## Examples of acceptable uniform footwear

Shoes should be plain black and made with a polishable real or synthetic leather.

The following are not permitted:

- Ankle or knee high boots,
- Trainers or trainer style shoes,
- Canvas or canvas style shoes.

The following images are examples of permitted uniform footwear:



## Examples of prohibited uniform footwear

- Any shoe with a logo or brand visible
- Boots
- Low top, trainer style shoes
- Mesh and other breathable or perforated fabric style shoes
- Canvas style shoes
- Shoes with visible threads, patterns or logos
- Shoes with a non-black sole
- Decorations or patterns
- Any white or colourful details

The following images are examples of prohibited uniform footwear:



## **Expectation for school uniform**

In addition to the details regarding acceptable and prohibited items provided above, the following additional expectations regarding the wearing of the uniform and some other aspects of student appearance are an important part of the uniform policy.

It is expected that students will **wear full uniform** to and from school. This includes bus journeys.

### ***Blazers***

Blazers should be worn at all times within the school building, with the following exceptions:

- Staff may allow students to remove them in class
- Blazers may be hung on the back of the chair in the dining hall or Steve Green Building whilst students are having lunch
- Students may remove blazers if students are **outside** at break or lunchtime.

### ***Shirt and tie***

- Shirts are to be tucked in and ties worn at such a length the King's Logo is below the knot.
- Top button must be fastened at all times.

### ***Skirts***

Skirts should not be rolled at the waist.

### ***Jewellery***

- Jewellery is not allowed except for a plain gold/silver stud or small hoop in pierced ears (one per ear). Studs/hoops, or any other piercings are not allowed in any area other than one per ear.
- Necklaces, bracelets, charity bands, friendship bracelets etc are not permitted.

### ***Hair***

Hair must be in a professional style and kept neat and tidy. Hair should not be dyed. Hair should be in one natural colour, simple hairstyles, and should be tied back and away from the face for health and safety reasons if necessary. Examples of unacceptable styles for both boys and girls include:

- Patterns shaved into a pupil's hair or eyebrows – this includes shaved parting lines (we will make contact immediately for this to be rectified).
- Hair should not fall over the eyes or, indeed, be untidy in any way.
- Only plain bobbles and plain hair grips should be used to tie back hair.
- Facial hair clean shaven/neatly groomed.

If in any doubt, families should contact the school before going to the trouble and expense of giving their child a new, potentially unacceptable, hair style. The school's decision is final.

### ***Makeup***

Makeup should not be worn by years 7 – 9 and only discreet make up is allowed in years 10 and 11. Nails should be clean and clear of any polish or beauty products (for example gels, acrylics etc). False lashes, fake tan, and nail extensions are also not permitted.

## **Expectations for our school community**

### ***Students***

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)

Pupils are also expected to contact the [ringmer.pastoral@kingsacademies.uk](mailto:ringmer.pastoral@kingsacademies.uk) if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to their protected characteristics.

### ***Parents and carers***

Parents and carers are responsible for:

- Ensuring that their child/children have the correct school uniform and PE kit, and that they are clean and in good condition.
- Supporting the school in ensuring their child adheres to the school uniform policy.
- Notifying the school if for any reason their child does not have the correct uniform.
- Supporting the school with any sanctions applied to address uniform infringements.
- Contacting the school 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 and carers 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.

### ***Staff***

Staff are responsible for:

- monitoring students' adherence to the uniform policy.
- Applying appropriate rewards and misdemeanour points in line with the school's Behaviour for Learning and Rewards Policy, using Class Charts.

Persistent breaches of our uniform policy will be escalated to the relevant pastoral lead.

### ***Governors***

The governing board will review this policy bi-annually 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 students

***The governing board is responsible for ratifying and upholding all policies and supporting the Principal of the school in moderating and upholding all policies.***

## **Equalities Statement**

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.

To avoid discrimination in implementing this policy the school will:

- Avoid listing uniform items based on sex, to give all students 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 students
- Allowed all students to have long hair (though we reserve the right to ask for this to be tied back)
- Allow all students to style their hair in a way that is appropriate for school and makes them feel most comfortable
- Allow students to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons or if they are experiencing discomfort related to their sex, gender or gender reassignment
- Allow students to wear headscarves and/or other religious garments
- Allow students 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 students, parents and carers to get in touch with Mrs Malik, SENDCO, who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests. These will be considered on a case-by-case basis

**An Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA) has been completed for this policy.**

An EIA is a considered way of determining whether a policy, practice or project will affect all groups equally or whether it potentially may have a differential impact on one or more groups.