

SCHOOL UNIFORM RESPONSES



Responses rate

Phase	Number of schools in phase	Number of responses
Primary	70	24
Secondary	19	9
Special/ACE	7	3
TOTAL		36

Primary schools

What is the average cost of a school uniform and PE kit for your school?

Item	Non-branded	Branded
Trousers	£3.50	
Sweatshirts	£2.50	£13
Pinafores/dresses	£4.40	
Polo shirt	£2.50	£9
PE top	£2.00	£8
Navy shorts	£3.00	

Total cost of 'essential items': Polo shirt, sweatshirt, PE top

Total cost of non-branded essential items	£7
Total cost of branded essential items	£30

Are families required to purchase branded items from single suppliers?

None of the primary schools that responded required parents to purchase a branded item from a single supplier.

One primary school had branded items available from the school office.

In all responses, parents had the option of purchasing a branded item, however, non-branded items were equally acceptable.

What additional support is in place for families, for example, second-hand options

All primary schools that responded had support in place for families. Examples included:

- a selection of second-hand uniform at school that was sold on at school events
- targeted support for families with free second-hand uniform
- Donation of surplus second-hand uniform to the city centre uniform shop. Encouragement of parents to do the same.
- a stock of nearly new uniform and offer of a free jumper/cardigan to pupils eligible for pupil premium on an annual basis
- information about second hand uniform in newsletters and the school social media channels
- a free book bag and water bottle for reception aged children
- a free uniform to children with refugee or asylum seeker status
- a free branded sweatshirt to all children starting reception
- a swap shop rail/help yourself table in the playground

Has a review been carried out of the school uniform policy in light of the guidance along with details of any significant changes?

Of the 24 primary schools that responded, 15 stated that they had carried out a review of their policy in light of guidance.

4 schools stated that no changes were needed following review due to policy already being aligned with guidance.

6 schools stated that following review changes to policy were made:

Change to policy	Number of schools
Stated in policy that branded items are optional	3
Stated in policy that second-hand items available	1
Extending the number of suppliers of branded items	1
Removed the requirement for branded items	3

Secondary Schools

Essential branded item	Cost
Blazer	£36.00
Tie	£7.00
PE top	£17.50
School skirt	£25.00
Jumper	£25.00

Essential non-branded item	Cost range
White shirts X3	£8.50
Black trousers X2	£14.00
Black socks/tights	£5
School shoes	£30
PE trainers	£30

The average cost of a full secondary school uniform ranges from £133.91 to £159.51.

Are families required to purchase branded items from single suppliers?

All secondary schools required parents to buy some branded items. These included

Blazer, Tie, Sports Polo Shirt, PE Fleece, Jumper, School Skirt, PE top

2 schools used a single supplier. However, 1 of these schools was undertaking a review of this position.

All secondary schools that responded had reduced the number of branded items in their school uniform.

Two stated that they require branded polo shirts for safeguarding purposes at sports fixtures and events.

What additional support is in place for families, for example, second-hand options

All secondary schools that responded had support in place for families. Examples included:

- working closely with the Uniform Store in Plymouth, who provide free second hand uniform to students.
- an option to purchase any second hand school uniform available through the school
- a 25% discount on branded items school items where a child was in receipt of pupil premium
- a supply of second hand donated uniform

Has a review been carried out of the school uniform policy in light of the guidance along with details of any significant changes?

7 schools responded that they had reviewed their uniform policy in light of guidance.

Significant changes included:

- a reduction in the number of branded items, particularly PE kits
- Implementation of lower cost options. For example, a single PE T Shirt for all sports

Special schools and ACE

ACE offer families a heavily discounted uniform with no one item costing over £6. A flexible approach is taken to uniform based on pupil needs.

2 special schools responded. Both take a flexible approach to school uniform based on the needs of individual pupils.

In one school there is a requirement to purchase branded item, a blazer. There is provision to provide these items free of charge where needed.