



The Meadows
ACADEMY

Uniform Policy



Horizons Specialist Academy Trust
Providing infinite opportunities

Draft – June 2025

This policy should be read in conjunction with the Horizons Trust Uniform policy.

We are proud of our Academy and as such we expect all pupils to wear our school uniform. Our policy is for all pupils to wear our uniform for the following reasons:

- Create cohesion – When students all wear the same clothing every day at school, it levels out the playing field. Any expectations on what to wear are removed and children develop a greater sense of equality.
- Reduce the potential for bullying – Without school uniforms, the potential for children to tease and make fun of one another is increased.
- Improve study ethic – If a child feels like they don't fit in, or they don't have the latest and best clothing, it can be damaging to their confidence.
- Increase safety – There are significant safety concerns to not adopting a uniform in school. With their school colours on, children can immediately be recognised at a distance as a member of that school.
- Prepare for the outside world – School uniforms prepare children for formal scenarios that we all encounter in our lives.

Our uniform is non-gender specific. The uniform has been carefully selected to ensure it meets the sensory needs of our students and Occupational therapists have been consulted. Children do not get changed for PE and so the uniform allows them to comfortably and safely take part in PE sessions.

The uniform is:

- Plain white collared shirt or polo-shirt with no logos. (A white base layer can be worn underneath for those with sensory needs)
- Black trousers or plain black tracksuit/jogging bottoms (with no branded logo). **No leggings**
- Royal blue sweatshirt with a round neck
- During hotter months' black shorts are acceptable. These should be sports shorts or jogging material shorts that are no shorter than knee length. Very short and /or tight-fitting lycra or cycling shorts **are not permitted**.

Footwear:

Footwear should be comfortable, practical and suitable for daily use.

Shoes/trainers must be **completely black** including all logos, brand ID's, laces and soles.

Flat shoes or trainers ensure children can join in with all of the activities of the day. **Wellies, flip-flop and Croc style footwear are not allowed.**

We strongly advise against wearing expensive trainers.

Parents and carers should ensure that their child can do their own laces if they have laced shoes or trainers.

Below are examples of appropriate footwear which will be allowed.

Coats and bags:

We advise children to wear a coat to school so they can go outdoors at break and lunchtime. We advise children do not wear an expensive coat to school.

School bags are not required.

Jewellery is not permitted, including piercings. If worn for school, they can be stored safely in the belonging's wallets with the students' other items (phones etc.)

Our uniform is simple and easy to purchase, meaning uniform can be purchased from local supermarkets or sports outlets. However, if you cannot find availability or required sizes, all uniform items can be ordered and paid for directly with **????**. Their contact details are

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School Uniform Support

The Meadows Academy will work with all parents and carers to help ensure that all students can meet our uniform high expectations. If you feel that you need support or help with this, please do not hesitate to contact us and we will work with you in a supportive and sensitive way.

Horizons Specialist Academy Trust operates a discretionary fund to financially support parents and carers in providing uniform. This fund is available to help pupils/students/ parents who have difficulties in paying for uniform, shoes or sports equipment. Please see the Hardship Policy on the academy website for details of how to apply for this funding.