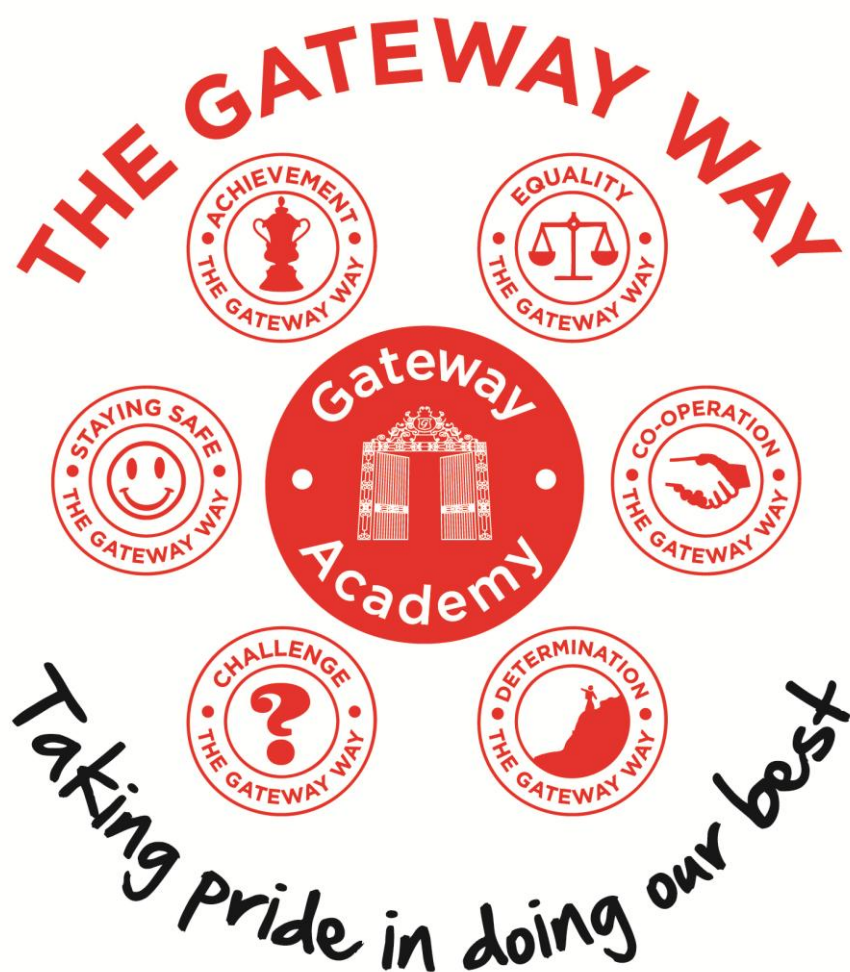


Gateway Academy



School Uniform Policy

Approved by: Lisa Breslin and Claire Cleary

Last reviewed on: September 2026

Next review due by: September 2027



Gateway Academy Uniform

Colder weather uniform	
Red jumper with logo	
White polo shirt with or without logo	
Charcoal grey: pinafore dress to the knee OR skirt to the knee OR trousers	
White or grey tights OR socks	
Smart black shoes	

Warmer weather uniform options	
Smart, charcoal grey shorts	
Red and white gingham dress or playsuit	

Nursery and PE kit	
White t shirt with logo	
Fleece with logo	
Plain black joggers	
Plain black plimsolls or trainers	
Plain black shorts	

Additional guidance			
Plain black shoes		Plain black trainers or plimsolls	
✓		✗	
Plain black, white or red hijabs		Single stud earrings, no other jewellery	
✓		✗	

✗			
Make up or nail varnish	Smart watches	logos/stripes on PE Kit	

INTRODUCTION

At Gateway Academy, we believe that school uniform helps create a sense of belonging, pride and community. It provides a practical and consistent way for children to identify with the Academy and helps children feel ready to learn.

Our uniform is designed to be smart, practical, comfortable and affordable for primary-aged children.

We recognise that the cost of school uniform can place pressure on families. We therefore keep compulsory branded items to a minimum and ensure that the majority of compulsory items can be purchased from a range of retailers.

Our uniform policy has been developed with regard to the Department for Education's statutory guidance on the cost of school uniforms and relevant equality, human rights, safeguarding and health and safety requirements.

The policy applies whenever children are attending Gateway Academy or participating in an Academy-organised activity or event where school uniform is required.

GATEWAY UNIFORM AT A GLANCE

The table below clearly identifies which items are compulsory and where they can be purchased.

Item	Compulsory?	Branded?	Where to buy
White polo shirt, long or short sleeve	Yes	No	Any suitable retailer
Red Gateway sweatshirt with Academy logo	Yes	Yes	Gateway approved supplier
Grey trousers, tailored shorts, skirt or pinafore/dress	Yes	No	Any suitable retailer
Red gingham summer dress	Optional	No	Any suitable retailer
Plain black school shoes or plain black trainers	Yes	No	Any suitable retailer
White or grey socks/tights	Yes	No	Any suitable retailer
Gateway PE T-shirt with Academy logo	Yes	Yes	Gateway approved supplier
Red joggers or red PE shorts	Yes	No	Any suitable retailer
Red Gateway hoodie or red Gateway fleece	Yes – choose one	Yes	Gateway approved supplier
Plain black trainers/plimsolls for PE	Yes	No	Any suitable retailer
Book bag/rucksack with Gateway logo	Optional	Yes	Gateway approved supplier

Compulsory branded items

Gateway Academy requires **three compulsory branded items**:

1. Red Gateway sweatshirt with Academy logo
2. Gateway PE T-shirt with Academy logo
3. **Either** the red Gateway hoodie **or** the red Gateway fleece

Parents and carers are not required to purchase both the hoodie and the fleece.

All other compulsory uniform and PE items are generic and can be purchased from a range of retailers.

This approach complies with the statutory limit on compulsory branded uniform and PE items for primary pupils, which is three items from September 2026.

MAIN SCHOOL UNIFORM

Children should wear:

- white polo shirt, long or short sleeve
- red Gateway sweatshirt with Academy logo
- grey trousers, tailored shorts, skirt or pinafore/dress
- red gingham summer dress as an optional summer alternative
- plain black school shoes or plain black trainers
- white or grey socks or tights

Trousers, skirts and dresses

Items should be suitable for primary school, comfortable and appropriate for active play.

There is no requirement for generic grey uniform items to be purchased from a particular supplier.

Parents and carers should choose clothing that is practical, durable and suitable for their child's needs.

PE AND GAMES KIT

Children should have a separate PE kit consisting of:

- Gateway PE T-shirt with Academy logo;
- red joggers or red shorts;
- **either** a red Gateway hoodie or red Gateway fleece;
- plain black trainers or plimsolls.

Children should have their PE kit available whenever required by their class teacher.

The Academy will communicate any additional PE requirements for particular activities or events in advance.

SWIMMING

Children participating in swimming should wear suitable swimwear that allows them to participate safely.

A one-piece swimming costume, swimming trunks or jammers are suitable.

Children may wear appropriate modest swimwear, including long-sleeved or full-length swimwear, where required for religious, cultural, medical or individual reasons, provided that it is suitable and safe for swimming.

Parents and carers should speak to the Academy if their child requires a particular adaptation or alternative.

FOOTWEAR

Children should wear:

- plain black school shoes
- plain black trainers.

Footwear should be predominantly black, without coloured patterns or prominent logos.

Footwear should be flat, comfortable and suitable for walking, playing and participating safely in school activities.

On wet or particularly cold days, children may wear wellington boots or warm boots to travel to and from the Academy. Children should bring normal school footwear to change into when they arrive.

For PE, children should wear plain black trainers or plimsolls.

COATS AND OUTDOOR CLOTHING

Children should bring a suitable waterproof coat or jacket to school whenever the weather may be cold or wet.

We aim to provide opportunities for children to play and learn outdoors whenever conditions are safe and appropriate, including during colder weather and light rain.

Coats should be practical and suitable for school. There is no requirement for coats to be branded or to display the Academy logo.

Children may also bring suitable:

- hats
- gloves
- scarves
- other weather-appropriate clothing

During periods of extreme weather, the Academy may temporarily adapt uniform expectations to protect children's health and wellbeing.

Parents and Carers are reminded to label these items as unfortunately the Academy cannot take any responsibility for lost items.

JEWELLERY AND WATCHES

For health and safety reasons, jewellery is not permitted in school, with the exception of:

- one pair of small, plain stud earrings
- a simple wristwatch

Smart watches and watches capable of sending or receiving messages, accessing the internet or communicating with others are not permitted.

Earrings must be removed for PE, games and other physical activities where required for safety.

Parents and carers should consider this requirement before allowing their child to have their ears pierced.

Where a child has recently had their ears pierced and is temporarily unable to remove their earrings, parents should speak to the Academy so that appropriate arrangements can be considered.

HAIR

Hair should be clean, safe and suitable for school.

Long hair should be tied back for PE, practical activities and whenever this is required for health and safety.

Hair accessories should be simple and in the Academy colours of red, white, grey or black.

The Academy will consider individual cultural, religious and medical needs when applying its expectations around hair.

Any restrictions relating to hairstyles will be applied sensitively and in accordance with the Academy's responsibilities under the Equality Act 2010 and relevant guidance on hair discrimination.

RELIGIOUS AND CULTURAL DRESS

Gateway Academy respects the religious and cultural needs of its pupils.

Children may wear appropriate religious or cultural items of dress where required, provided that they are compatible with health, safety and safeguarding requirements.

For example, a child who wears a headscarf/hijab for religious observance may wear a plain black, grey, red or white headscarf/hijab.

Where a parent or carer believes that their child's religious or cultural requirements are not adequately accommodated by this policy, they should speak to the Headteacher so that the matter can be discussed sensitively.

The Academy will seek to accommodate religious and cultural requirements wherever reasonably possible.

MAKE-UP, NAILS AND COSMETICS

Make-up and cosmetics are not appropriate for everyday school use.

The following are not permitted:

- make-up
- false eyelashes
- nail varnis
- acrylic or false nails
- other cosmetic products

The CoHeadteachers may give permission for appropriate make-up or cosmetics for a specific Academy event or performance.

SUN PROTECTION

During warm or sunny weather, children should:

- apply appropriate sunscreen before coming to school

- bring a suitable sun hat where requested by the Academy
- have access to drinking water throughout the school day

The Academy may provide additional guidance during periods of particularly hot weather or when a weather-health alert is in place.

BAGS AND BOOK BAGS

Book bags and rucksacks displaying the Gateway logo are **optional**.

Parents and carers are not required to purchase a branded Gateway bag.

Any school bag should be practical, suitable for a primary-aged child and large enough to carry the items their child needs.

LOST PROPERTY

Unnamed or unclaimed items will be placed in the Academy's lost property area.

Parents and carers will be given opportunities to check lost property during the year.

Unclaimed items may be donated for second-hand use, recycled or disposed of responsibly.

AFFORDABILITY AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Gateway Academy recognises that the cost of school uniform can be difficult for some families.

We therefore:

- keep compulsory branded items to a minimum
- allow generic uniform items to be purchased from a range of retailers
- provide access to second-hand uniform where possible
- avoid requiring parents to purchase both items where the policy provides a choice
- consider the cost and value for money of uniform items when reviewing the policy
- seek to ensure that uniform costs do not prevent a child from attending school or participating in Academy activities

If a family is experiencing financial difficulty or is unable to provide the required uniform, parents and carers should contact the CoHeadteachers or Academy office in confidence.

The Academy will seek to provide appropriate support wherever possible.

Parents and carers can also check whether their local authority provides support towards school uniform costs.

IF A CHILD CANNOT WEAR THE CORRECT UNIFORM

We understand that there may be occasions when a child is temporarily unable to wear the full uniform, for example because:

- an item has been lost or damaged
- a child has grown out of an item
- an item is being washed or repaired

- a family is experiencing temporary financial difficulty
- a child has an identified medical, sensory, disability, religious or other individual need

Parents and carers should contact the Academy if there is a problem.

The Academy will seek to deal with such situations supportively, sensitively and reasonably.

No child should be prevented from attending school because their family is temporarily unable to provide a particular uniform item.

REASONABLE ADJUSTMENTS AND INDIVIDUAL NEEDS

Gateway Academy recognises that some children may require adaptations or flexibility in relation to school uniform because of:

- disability
- special educational needs
- sensory needs
- medical conditions
- physical needs
- religious or cultural requirements
- other individual circumstances

Parents and carers should speak to the CoHeadteachers or SENCO where an adjustment may be required.

The Academy will consider reasonable adjustments and individual circumstances in accordance with the Equality Act 2010, relevant guidance and the child's needs.

The Academy will seek to ensure that uniform requirements do not unlawfully discriminate against pupils or create unnecessary barriers to participation.

NON-UNIFORM DAYS AND SPECIAL EVENTS

The Academy may hold non-uniform days, themed days, performances or other special events.

Parents and carers will be given clear information about any specific requirements in advance.

The Academy will avoid requirements that create unnecessary expense for families.

Where a particular costume, item or colour is suggested for an event, the Academy will provide an affordable or readily available alternative where appropriate.

No child will be excluded from an Academy activity because their family is unable to purchase a particular costume or item.

UNIFORM AND BEHAVIOUR

Children are expected to follow the Academy's uniform expectations.

Where a child is not wearing the correct uniform, staff will respond in accordance with the Academy's Behaviour Policy and will take account of the reason for the variation.

The Academy will seek to resolve uniform issues fairly and proportionately.

Uniform requirements will not be used in a way that prevents a child from accessing education.

PURCHASING SCHOOL UNIFORM

Gateway Academy has approved suppliers for the compulsory branded items.

Details of current suppliers, prices and ordering arrangements are available on the **Parent and Carer Hub on the Academy website**.

Generic uniform items may be purchased from any suitable retailer, provided that they meet the requirements set out in this policy.

The Academy will keep its uniform supply arrangements under review to ensure that they provide appropriate quality, durability and value for money. Schools are expected to give priority to cost and value for money and to avoid unnecessary single-supplier restrictions.

UNIFORM REVIEW AND CONSULTATION

Gateway Academy will review this policy regularly to ensure that it remains:

- affordable
- practical
- inclusive
- suitable for primary-aged children
- consistent with safeguarding and health and safety requirements
- compliant with relevant legislation and statutory guidance
- appropriate for the needs of the Gateway community

The Academy will consider feedback from parents, pupils and staff when making significant changes to the uniform policy.

Any significant changes will be communicated to families before they take effect wherever reasonably possible.

COMPLAINTS

Parents and carers who have concerns about the Academy's uniform policy should raise them with the Academy in the first instance.

Where a concern cannot be resolved informally, parents and carers may use the Academy's Complaints Policy.

The Academy will consider complaints fairly and in accordance with its published complaints procedure.

OUR GATEWAY EXPECTATION

We want every child to arrive at Gateway feeling comfortable, confident and ready to learn.

Our uniform should support our sense of community without creating unnecessary financial pressure for families. Above all, our expectations reflect our Academy values:

Be kind. Be safe. Be a learner.