



3rd July 2026

Dear parents and carers,

In November of this academic year, the Department of Education updated their statutory guidance on school uniforms. The guidance states that by September 2026 'secondary and middle schools should limit the number of compulsory branded items of uniform and PE kit to four or fewer, if one is a tie.' The reason for this guidance is 'to ensure the cost of school uniforms is reasonable and provides the best value for money.'

As you know, the principle of affordability has long underpinned our approach to uniform here at Highlands School. In 2023, we changed our uniform in order to make it more affordable and we offer to provide uniform items for families who request them.

The updating of the school's uniform in 2023 was, in part, based upon feedback from parents, carers and pupils. We have continued to listen and to shape our uniform accordingly. For example, a summer polo shirt was added to our uniform following student feedback.

Items that will be removed from Highlands School's uniform for September 2026.

In an effort to ensure that our uniform is as affordable as possible, we will remove the following items from our uniform list:

- Highlands School PE beanie hat
- Highlands School rugby shirt
- Highlands School PE socks

Highlands School's uniform for September 2026.

As a school we are keen to ensure that our uniform continues to serve the needs of parents, carers and pupils. As a result we can confirm that there will be no further changes to the main school uniform (excluding the PE kit) in 2026. The school uniform will consist of the following items:

- A Highlands School blazer.
- A Highlands School jumper
- A Highlands School tie.
- An optional summer Highlands School polo shirt to be worn from 1st May.
- A plain white shirt.
- Plain black trousers, worn on the waist.
- A plain black, pleated kilt worn to the knee.

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Highlands School, 148 Worlds End Lane, London N21 1QQ

Call: 020 8370 1100 Email: postbox@highlearn.uk



- Black shoes (see our website for details about which styles of shoes are acceptable for school).

Highlands School's PE kit for September 2026.

Highlands School's PE kit is branded. A branded PE kit means that students are easily identifiable as Highlands School students. As a result, students are able to wear their PE kits for the whole day on the days that they have PE lessons meaning they do not have to spend time changing into their PE kits before and after their PE lessons. This allows students more time to engage in their PE lessons and students have reported that they value this privilege.

In order to maintain the benefits associated with students wearing their PE kits for all lessons on days they have PE, Highlands School will continue to offer our current PE kit which includes both branded and non-branded items. PE kit consists of the following uniform items:

- Highlands School PE top.
- Highlands School PE hoodie.
- Highlands School PE leggings or jogging bottoms.
- Plain white socks.
- Plain black shorts. Shorts should be free of markings, for example, Nike ticks, Adidas three stripes, etc. would not be allowed. Shorts should be worn to, or just above the knee. Shorts made of tracksuit material are not permitted.

Uniform shop suppliers.

Highlands School uniform and PE kit can be purchased from the following shops:

- **Smiths Schoolwear**
Cockfosters: 25 Station Parade, Cockfosters Road, Barnet, EN4 0DW. Tel: 020 8363 2424.
Enfield: 223 Baker Street, Enfield, EN1 3LA. Tel: 020 3818 3622.
Web: www.smithsschoolwear.co.uk
- **Uniform4Kids**
242 Hertford Road, Enfield, EN3 5BL. Tel: 020 8804 3627. Web: www.uniform4kids.com

As before, we are happy to provide this PE kit to any parent or carer who requests financial support. If you require financial support then please email uniform@highlearn.uk.

It is, of course, the right of parents to buy alternative, non-school branded items of PE kit but as mentioned above, all such items must have no markings. If parents wish to do this, the following items should be purchased:

- Dark, bottle green hoodie made of tracksuit material.
- Plain black jogging bottom with no markings. Shorts made of tracksuit material are not permitted.
- Plain matt black leggings with no markings.



- Plain black shorts. Shorts should be free of markings, for example, Nike ticks, Adidas three stripes, etc. would not be allowed. Shorts should be worn to, or just above the knee. Shorts made of tracksuit material are not permitted.
- Plain, dark bottle green cotton collared t-shirt.
- Plain white socks.

Non-branded PE kit must be approved by the year team.

We hope that our approach to uniform enables us to balance the need for affordability, the needs of parents, carers and students, and meet with the legal requirements set out by the Department for Education. If you have any questions about the school's approach to uniform please feel free to contact postbox@highlearn.uk

Best wishes,

Mr Hurst
Deputy headteacher
Highlands School