

The DfE has published its updated statutory guidance *Cost of school uniforms*, which can be accessed below:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/cost-of-school-uniforms/cost-of-school-uniforms>

The updated statutory guidance replaces the draft guidance that was published in October 2025, to reflect the legislative limit on the number of branded items of school uniform and PE kit that schools can require.

This limit comes into force on **1 September 2026** when schools must limit the number of compulsory branded items of uniform and PE kit to **three** or fewer (or in the case of secondary and middle schools, **four** items, if one of the items is a tie).

The guidance also includes new expectations for schools to ensure that no uniform item is of unnecessarily high cost, including schools having to consider the affordability of each item, and taking steps to minimise the cost of higher price items such as blazers and jumpers.

Schools should implement these new expectations as soon as possible, and by **September 2027** at the latest.

The DfE advises that any schools which did not make the necessary changes to comply with the limit in the autumn, must do so in readiness for September, and ensure that updated policies are available to parents, including prospective parents.

The non-statutory guidance *Developing school uniform policy* has also been updated, and can be found via the following link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/school-uniform/school-uniforms>