

Uniform FAQs

Are both coats compulsory?

Between October half term and February half term, all students must wear one of the school coats. If the student would like to or for extra warmth, they may choose to wear the fleece under the raincoat. Outside of these times, if a student wears a coat, they must wear one of the school coats. Non-school coats will not be allowed.

Additionally, students have the flexibility to wear extra layers underneath the school jumper and shirt for extra warmth if required.

Do the Gosforth Group make any financial gains from the uniform?

The Gosforth Group do not make any financial gain from the sale of uniforms.

What is the sanction for non-compliance with the school coat?

Non compliance with the school uniform comes under the PRAISE code. Students will receive a planner comment and the uniform issue will need to be rectified.

What if my child gets dropped off at school and therefore doesn't walk or get the school bus?

The coat will be needed at break and lunch time as students will be outside during this time.

Why is a school uniform needed?

The wearing of a school uniform is important to both the school and its students. It fosters a sense of pride and contributes to the cohesion of the school community, both internally and within the local community.

When all students wear the same school uniform, including a school coat, it removes any pressure or stress students may feel about meeting the expectations of their peers and creates a sense of equality within the school environment. The school coat will remove the points of difference between students, thus unifying the student body and allowing them to focus on academic work.

The school-specific uniform ensures that the quality of the uniform purchased is designed to stand the test of time, so items will not need to be replaced as frequently, providing better value for money. Well-made durable uniform costs significantly less than what is often reported and will often last a child beyond one school year, and potentially even longer, minimising the need to keep buying new items.

Why have a school coat if students have to remove it before they enter the building?

As the coat is part of the uniform it will not have to be removed when students enter the building.

Does the school accept responsibility for students on their way to and from school?

The PRAISE code covers student behaviour when they are wearing school uniform on the way to and from school.

What support will my child get if the wearing of the uniform impacts on their mental health?

North Gosforth Academy has extensive provision in place to support students with their mental health needs ranging from whole year group / class interventions to specialist support either in a group or as an individual. If you have any concerns around your child's mental health, please contact your child's head of year.

Does the coat conform to the government guidance on uniform?

The government guidance on uniform was considered by the Gosforth Group when adding the coat to the North Gosforth Academy uniform. The school coat has been part of the compulsory school uniform at the other Gosforth Group schools for a number of years and this move brings us in line with the standards at these schools. When looking at the cost of the uniform, even with the addition of the school coat, the NGA uniform compares very favorably to other secondary school uniforms. The children's society says an average basket of uniform is £337 and the North Gosforth Academy uniform comes in well below that figure.

My child has a medical condition that will be impacted by wearing the school coat

If you believe the wearing of the coat will impact on a medical condition, please contact Mrs. Cooke.

What provision is in place for secondhand uniform?

The school collects secondhand uniform throughout the year. We will advertise certain times when it will be set out for parents to collect the items they need. At any other time of year, parents can contact reception who will sort the items needed.

What should I do if I have financial difficulties and cannot afford uniform items such as the coat?

If you need financial support to get any uniform items, please contact your child's head of year as we have a fund available to support parents / carers with this.

Can the school coat be worn for PE lessons?

Yes, the school coat can be worn during PE lessons.