

Ysgol Garth Olwg Uniform Statement

The school uniform is very important to the ethos of Ysgol Garth Olwg as it supports our values of fostering respect, working together as one community and encouraging ambition. Indeed, the Welsh Government is encouraging all governing bodies to have school uniforms because it:

- creates a sense of identity, community and cohesion in the school
- supports positive behavior and discipline at school
- ensures that pupils dress appropriately for learning activities
- removes peer pressure to wear clothes of a certain fashion
- ensures that pupils from all backgrounds share a common identity
- helps to reduce the inequality between pupils and help to reduce some factors that lead to bullying
- helps to identify strangers on the school premises
- supports and promote the ethos of the school.

Ysgol Garth Olwg is very proud of how it has developed school uniforms in accordance with Welsh Government guidelines and with a rights-based approach (UNCRC). The school implements the guidelines in a reasonable manner and carefully considers how to communicate their importance.

- We only have basic items and colors (blue and grey), so that items can be purchased at various retail suppliers at reasonable prices and not just from one authorized supplier.
- There is an option of wearing items with the badge and also a plain matching item without a badge.
- We do not specify a different uniform for summer and winter because the school uniform for the summer is only worn for a matter of weeks, as a result this saves money for the school families.
- Our official blazers are simple and the cheapest possible that wash easily (in a washing machine) and there is also the option of wearing a plain matching blazer.
- By now, we do not require school coats of a specific color or style because it can mean that parents will have to buy two coats for their children: one for school and one to wear at other times.

Ysgol Garth Olwg strongly feels that second-hand clothes can benefit all parents and by extending the life of a garment, the school encourages sustainability and its wider benefits. We ensure that arrangements are in place every half term so that second-hand school uniforms are available to pupils on the school premises.

We also support any family who think they are eligible, to apply for the School Essentials Grant. The purpose of the grant is to provide financial support to families on a low income to buy school uniform, including coats and shoes / school sports kit / IT equipment / school bags and stationery / equipment for trips outside school hours or learning in the outdoors.

<https://www.rctcbc.gov.uk/CY/Resident/SchoolsandLearning/Freeschoolmeals.aspx>

Thank you for your continued support as we work together as one community to ensure high standards for all of our pupils at Ysgol Garth Olwg.