

Roby Park Primary School



Aiming for Excellence

Active Uniform Consultation

April 2026





Introduction & Purpose of the Consultation

As part of our commitment to pupils' wellbeing, inclusion and active learning, we are consulting on introducing an "active uniform" as an alternative to our current formal uniform.

We believe an active uniform has the potential to benefit pupils by making them feel more comfortable throughout the school day, reducing itchiness or tightness some children experience in traditional items and enabling freer movement for play, learning and participation in a wider range of activities.

There are several potential benefits we want to explore through this consultation:

- **Comfort and wellbeing:** Children can move more freely and feel more at ease throughout the day, which supports focus, engagement and confidence.
- **Supports active learning:** An active uniform removes barriers to participating in physical activity, outdoor learning and movement-based lessons.
- **Simpler for families:** A single, consistent uniform can reduce stress around daily routines, minimise lost property and lower the number of items families need to purchase.
- **Cost-effective:** Active uniforms are often more affordable and durable than traditional school uniforms. Only purchasing the active uniform without the additional costs of our formal uniform will reduce costs.
- **No changing needed:** Eliminating the need to change for sports competitions or after schools clubs saves time, supports smoother routines and reduces disruption.
- **Promotes equality:** A straightforward, consistent uniform helps ensure all children can access the same clothing without the pressure of branded or expensive items

Consultation Methodology

We will collect feedback through a short survey (available online, with a paper copy on request) for all stakeholders, alongside pupil voice activities in school and staff feedback on day-to-day practicalities.

Families will be able to share both multiple-choice responses and written comments. All responses will be reviewed and grouped into key themes (for example: comfort, cost, quality, seasonal suitability, footwear, and uniform consistency).

We will then produce a summary report showing the main positives, concerns and suggested improvements. This report will be shared with governors and used to inform next steps, including whether to proceed, adapt the proposal, trial the uniform for a set period or keep the current uniform.

Feedback will be used to shape any final decision and, if changes are introduced, to plan a phased and affordable implementation that works well for all pupils.

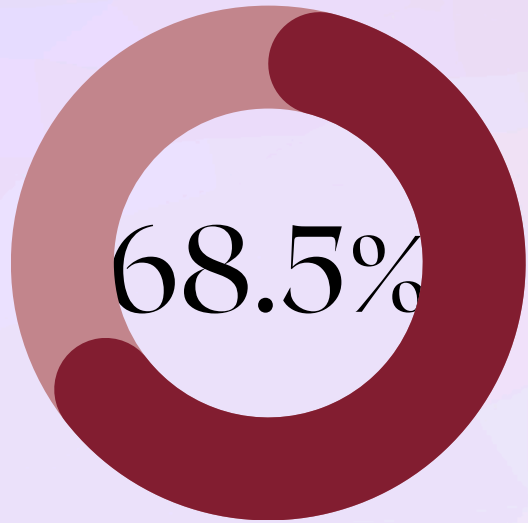
We will treat all feedback respectfully and consider the needs of all families, including SEND and sensory needs.

Responses will be summarised anonymously, and no individual comments will be attributed to named families.

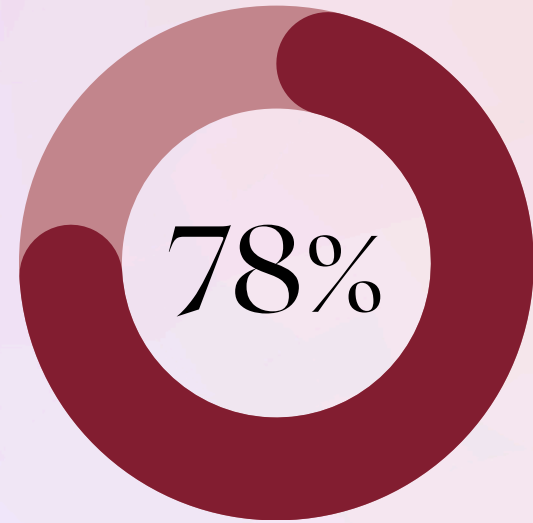
We will clearly communicate the outcome of the consultation and the reasons for the final decision.



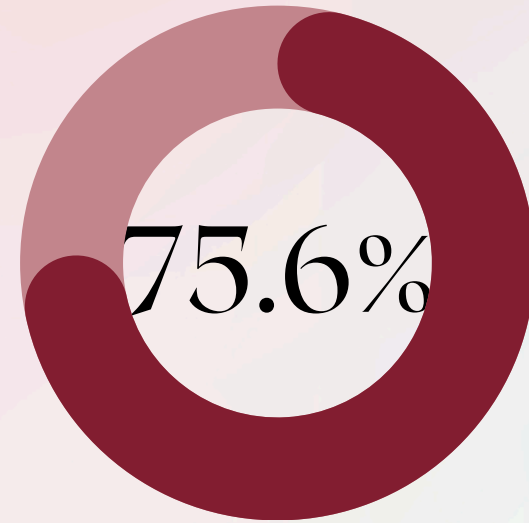
Parent Consultation Results



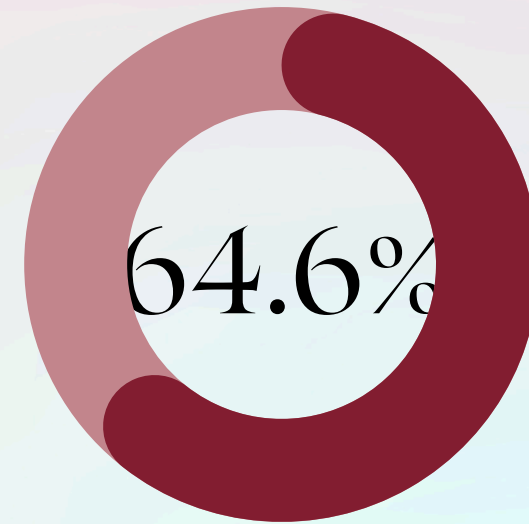
Feel positive about active uniform proposal.



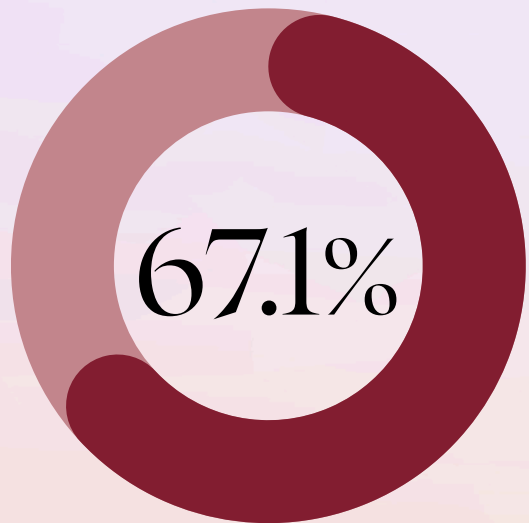
Say children are more comfortable wearing their PE kit.



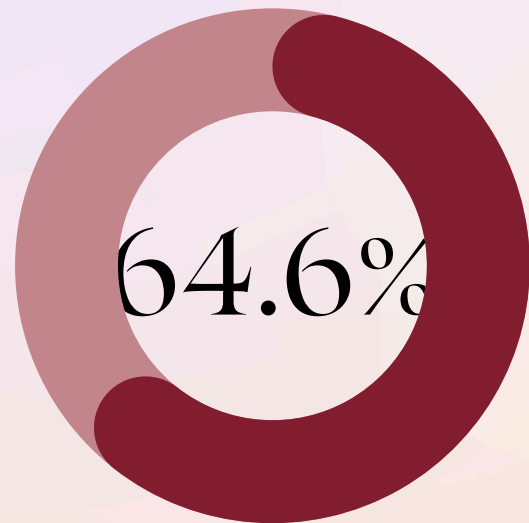
An active uniform might support improved wellbeing, confidence or readiness to learn.



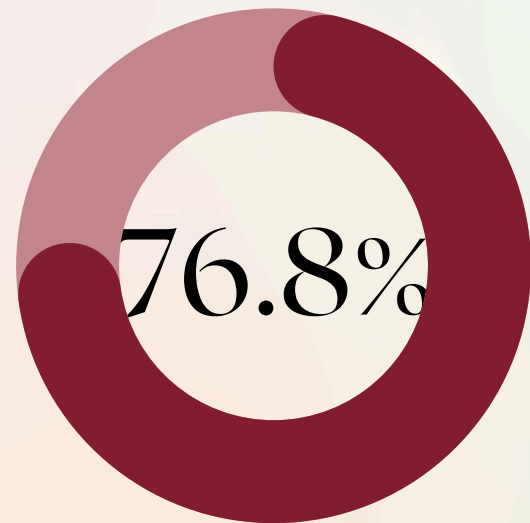
Think an active uniform will be more affordable or the same.



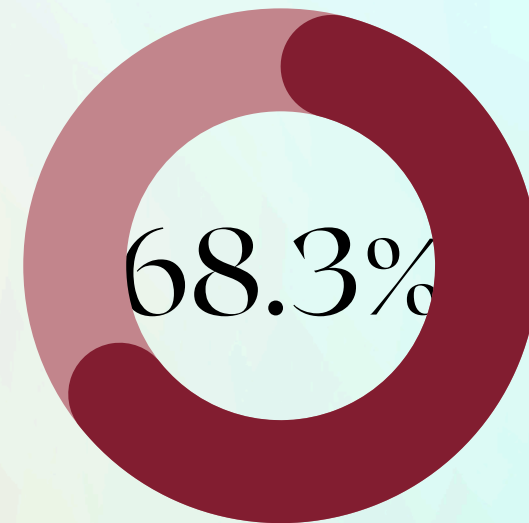
An active uniform will maintain a sense of school identity and pride.



An active uniform would make mornings and daily routines easier.

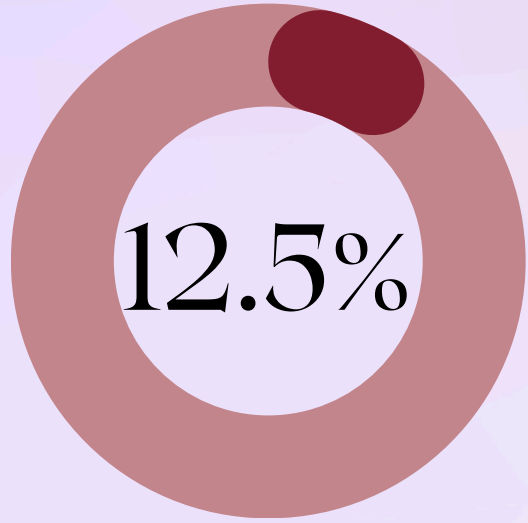


More prepared for outdoor learning and active lessons.



No concerns about the weather.

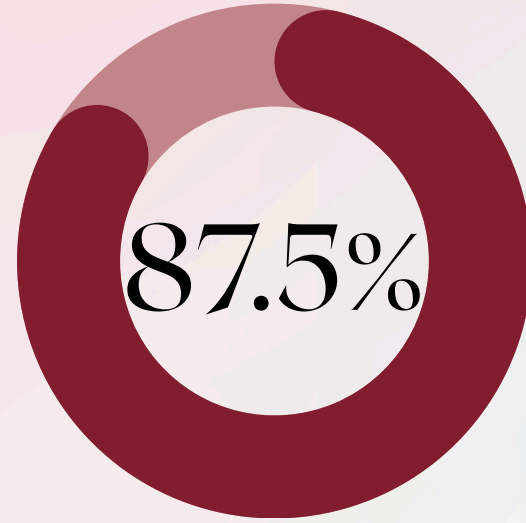
Staff Consultation Results



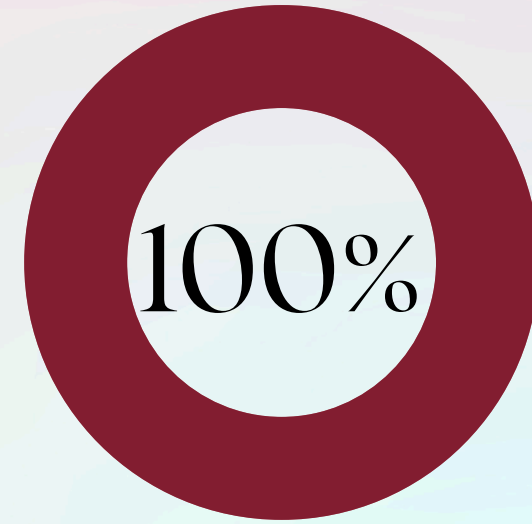
Current uniform allows children to be active.



Active uniform will allow children to spend more time being active.



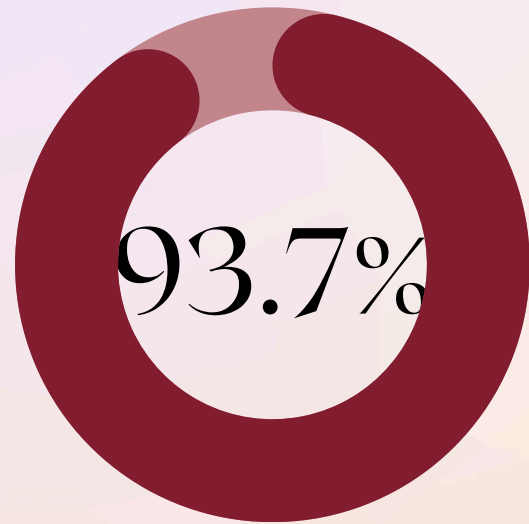
Feel positive about the proposal for an active uniform.



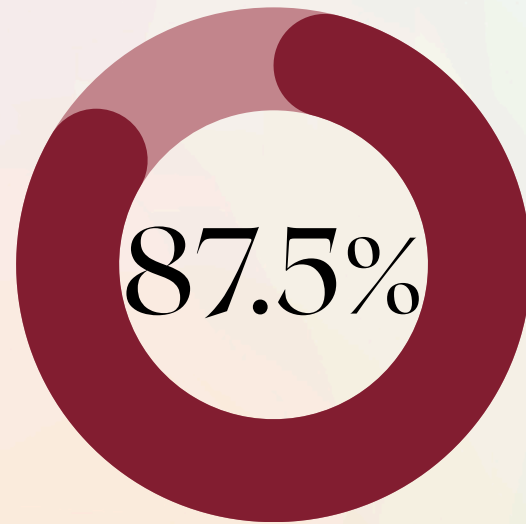
Think there are benefits to having an active school uniform.



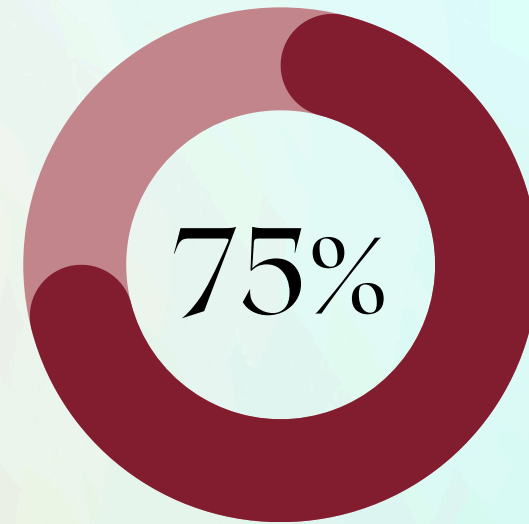
Improvements in pupils' wellbeing and comfort.



An active uniform would encourage more physical activity.

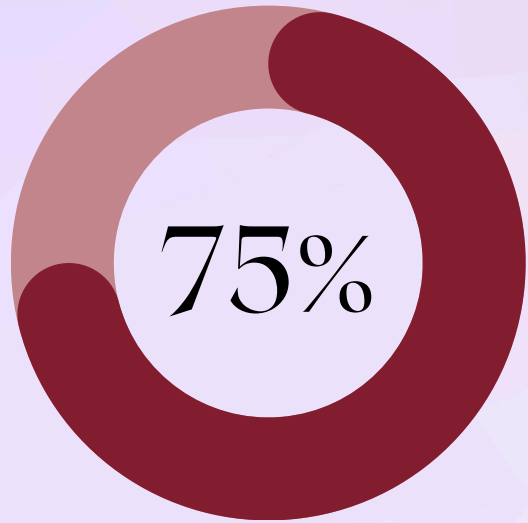


No concerns about weather suitability.



Positive impact on families.

Goveror Consultation Results



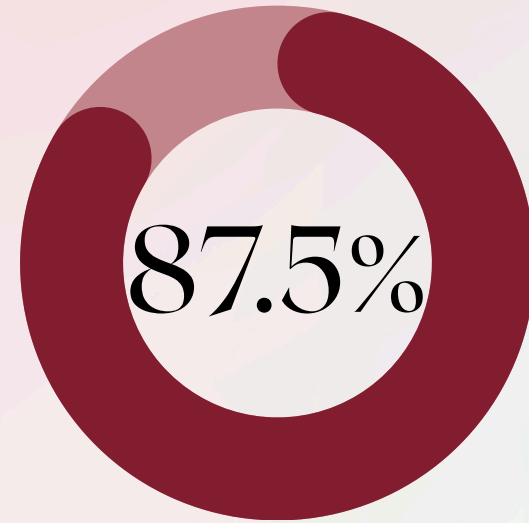
75%

Current uniform partially allows children to be active.



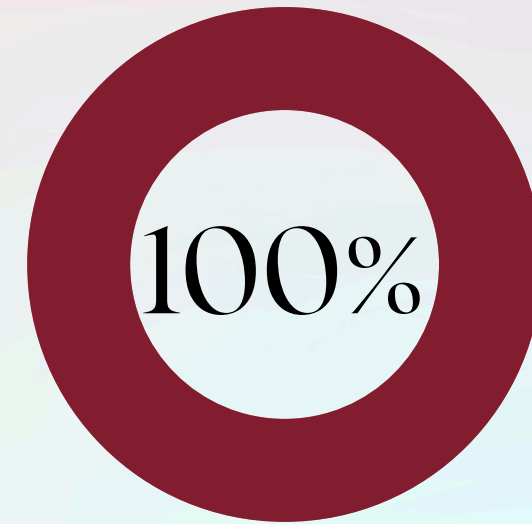
100%

Active uniform will allow children to spend more time being active.



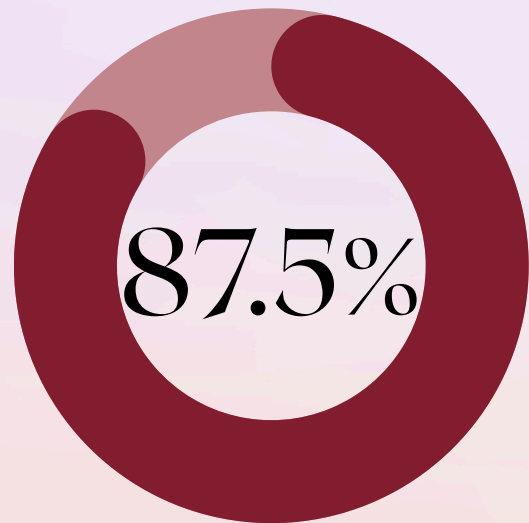
87.5%

Feel positive about the proposal for an active uniform.



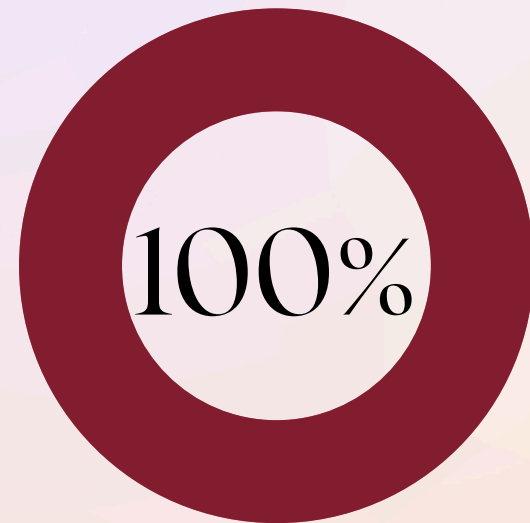
100%

Think there are benefits to having an active school uniform.



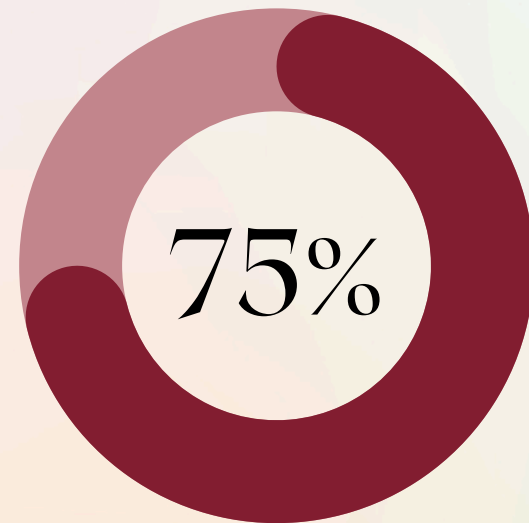
87.5%

Improvements in pupils' wellbeing and comfort.



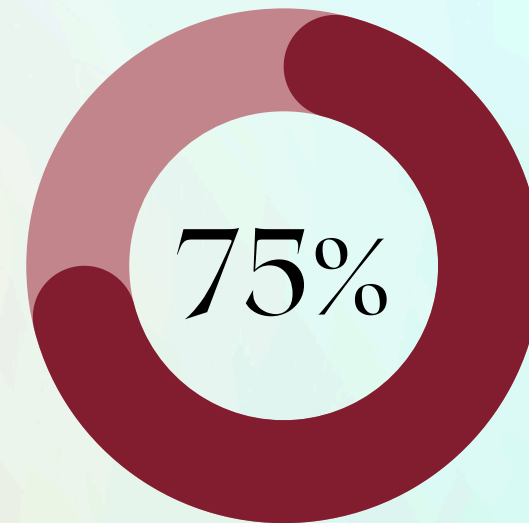
100%

An active uniform would encourage more physical activity.



75%

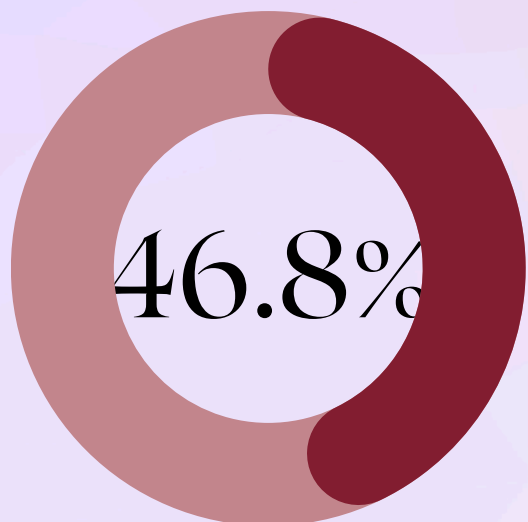
Encourage more physical activity and movement.



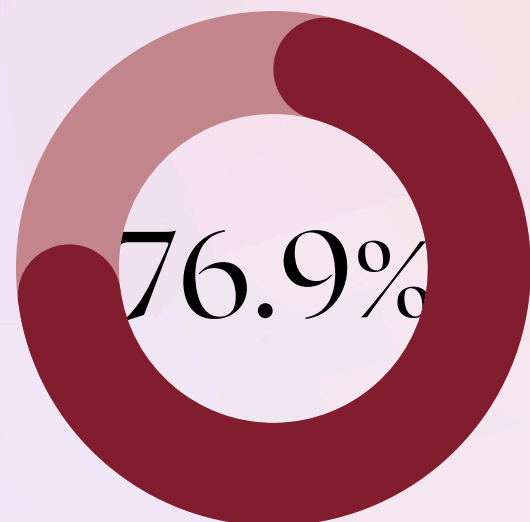
75%

Positive impact on families.

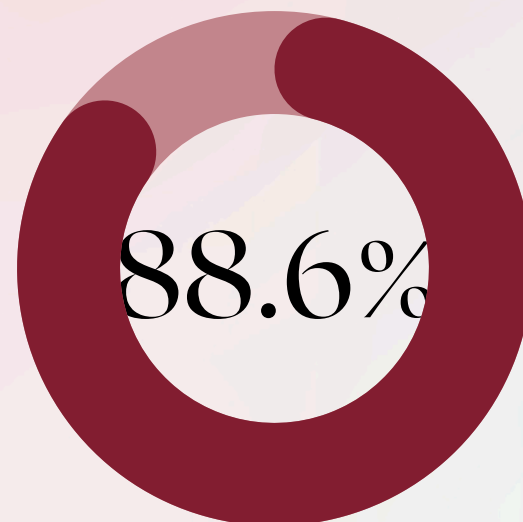
Pupil Consultation Results



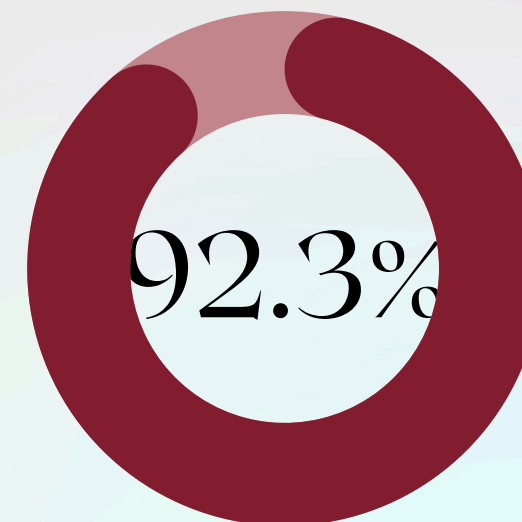
Described the current uniform as uncomfortable.



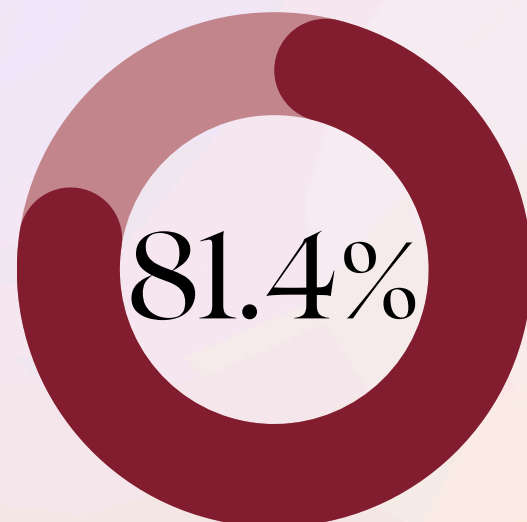
Like the idea of an active uniform.



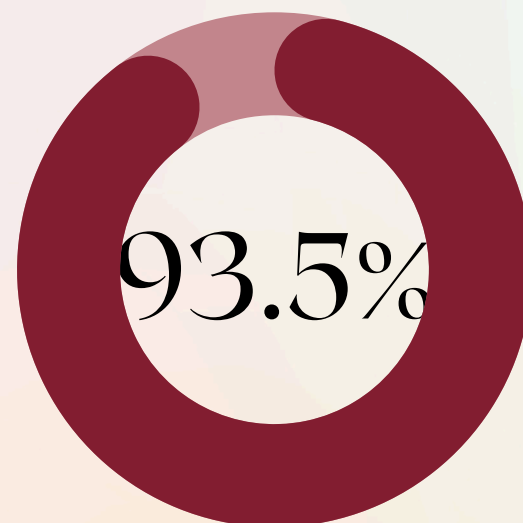
More comfortable in an active uniform.



An active uniform would make learning and playing easier.



Think an active uniform would make it easier to play, learn and join in activities.



An active uniform might help everyone join in more easily.

Active Uniform - Alternatives to go with our current PE tracksuit



Asda Navy Active Stretch Leggings
from £5



Asda Navy Jersey Cycling Shorts x2
from £4



Asda Navy Skorts x2
from £5



Asda Navy Football Shorts x2
from £4



Asda Navy Active Joggers (no ankle cuff)
from £6



Asda White Crew Neck Tshirts x5
from £5

Cost Effectiveness Comparisons

Active Uniform Winter/Spring	Current Uniform Winter/Spring
2x leggings £12 2x PE jackets £31.90 2x white plain t-shirts £3 5x white socks £4 Trainers***	2x polo shirts £4 5x tights £9 2x skirts £14 2x cardigans £22 1x PE tracksuit £26 1x PE tshirt £6 School shoes £17 Trainers***
£50.90	£98

Active Uniform Summer/Autumn	Current Uniform Summer/Autumn
4x skorts £ 7 Or cycling shorts £5 Already have trainers, white socks, white t-shirts & jackets	5x socks £4 2x Summer dresses £12 2x cycling shorts £5 1x PE shorts £6 Already have trainers, school shoes, cardigans, PE tracksuit & PE t-shirt
£7 or £5 depending on preference	£27

Active Uniform Winter/Spring	Current Uniform Winter/Spring
2x tracksuits £52 2x white plain t-shirts £3 5x white socks £3.50 Trainers***	2x polo shirts £4 12x grey socks £4.50 2x school trousers £9 2x jumpers £22 1x PE tracksuit £26 1x PE tshirt £6 School shoes £20 Trainers***
£58.50	£91.50

Active Uniform Summer/Autumn	Current Uniform Summer/Autumn
2x PE shorts £5 Already have trainers, white socks, white t-shirts & jackets	5x white socks £3.50 2x Summer shorts £9 1x PE shorts £6 Already have trainers, polo shirts, school shoes, jumpers, PE tracksuit & PE t-shirt
£5	£18.50

*based on two uniforms per week
 **based on age 7-8 years old
 ***trainers cost at parents/carers choosing



Cost Effectiveness Comparisons

Active Uniform Winter/Spring	Current Uniform Winter/Spring
3x leggings £18 3x PE jackets £47.85 4x white plain t-shirts £6 5x white socks £4 Trainers***	3x polo shirts £6 5x tights £9 3x skirts £21 3x cardigans £33 1x PE tracksuit £26 1x PE tshirt £6 School shoes £17 Trainers***
£75.85	£120

Active Uniform Summer/Autumn	Current Uniform Summer/Autumn
4x skorts £ 14 Or cycling shorts £10 Already have trainers, white socks, white t-shirts & jackets	5x socks £4 3x Summer dresses £18 3x cycling shorts £7.50 1x PE shorts £6 Already have trainers, school shoes, cardigans, PE tracksuit & PE t-shirt
£14 or £10 depending on preference	£35.50

Active Uniform Winter/Spring	Current Uniform Winter/Spring
3x tracksuits £78 3x white plain t-shirts £7 5x white socks £3.50 Trainers***	3x polo shirts £6 12x grey socks £4.50 3x school trousers £13.50 3x jumpers £33 1x PE tracksuit £26 1x PE tshirt £6 School shoes £20 Trainers***
£88.50	£109

Active Uniform Summer/Autumn	Current Uniform Summer/Autumn
4x PE shorts £10 Already have trainers, white socks, white t-shirts & jackets	5x white socks £3.50 3x Summer shorts £13.50 1x PE shorts £6 Already have trainers, school shoes, jumpers, polo shirts, PE tracksuit & PE t-shirt
£10	£23

*based on three uniforms per week
 **based on age 7-8 years old
 ***trainers cost at parents/carers choosing



Cost Effectiveness Comparisons

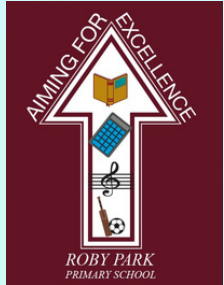
Active Uniform Winter/Spring	Current Uniform Winter/Spring
4x leggings £24 4x PE jackets £63.80 5x white plain t-shirts £7.50 5x white socks £4 Trainers***	4x polo shirts £8 5x tights £9 4x skirts £28 4x cardigans £44 1x PE tracksuit £26 1x PE tshirt £6 School shoes £17 Trainers***
£99.30	£138

Active Uniform Summer/Autumn	Current Uniform Summer/Autumn
4x skorts £ 14 Or cycling shorts £10 Already have trainers, white socks, white t-shirts & jackets	5x socks £4 4x Summer dresses £26 4x cycling shorts £10 1x PE shorts £6 Already have trainers, school shoes, cardigans, PE tracksuit & PE t-shirt
£14 or £10 depending on preference	£46

Active Uniform Winter/Spring	Current Uniform Winter/Spring
4x PE jackets £63.80 4x PE joggers £39.80 5x white plain t-shirts £7.50 5x white socks £3.50 Trainers***	4x polo shirts £8 12x grey socks £4.50 4x school trousers £18 4x jumpers £44 1x PE tracksuit £26 1x PE tshirt £6 School shoes £20 Trainers***
£114.60	£126.50

Active Uniform Summer/Autumn	Current Uniform Summer/Autumn
4x PE shorts £10 Already have trainers, white socks, white t-shirts & jackets	5x white socks £3.50 4x Summer shorts £18 1x PE shorts £6 Already have trainers, school shoes, polo shorts, jumpers, PE tracksuit & PE t-shirt
£10	£27.50

*based on four uniforms per week
 **based on age 7-8 years old
 ***trainers cost at parents/carers choosing



Equality & Inclusion

An active uniform supports equality and inclusion at Roby Park Primary by ensuring that every child is dressed to take part fully in learning, play and school life, without unnecessary barriers linked to comfort, gender expectations, cost or additional needs. It aligns with a culture where pupils are encouraged to be confident, active and ready to learn, and where the school day includes movement, outdoor learning and play-based experiences.

Inclusion through comfort, access and participation

An active uniform helps to remove barriers that can prevent some pupils from fully engaging—particularly pupils with SEND, sensory needs, fine motor difficulties or pupils who benefit from movement breaks. Clothing designed for movement and comfort supports:

- sensory comfort (fewer restrictive items),
- dignity and independence (simpler dressing/undressing),
- consistent participation in PE, active learning and outdoor provision.

This reflects an inclusive ethos: we adapt the environment so children can succeed, rather than expecting children to “fit” a uniform that creates daily stress or disadvantage.

Equality through gender-neutral, flexible options

An active uniform can be structured as gender-neutral by default, reducing stereotypes and expectations. Where we offer a small range of approved options—for example joggers/shorts/leggings and skorts—children can choose what feels right for them while maintaining a consistent school identity.

This supports:

- pupils who feel uncomfortable in skirts,
- pupils who want a skirt-style option (e.g., skorts),
- pupils whose confidence increases when they can choose clothing that suits their body and comfort.

The result is a more equitable approach: comfort and participation come first, not gendered uniform rules.



Equality & Inclusion

Belonging and a consistent school culture

A clear active uniform policy can strengthen a shared sense of identity—everyone dressed for the same purpose: learning and being active.

When guidance is simple and consistent (colours/items), it helps all pupils feel they “fit in,” and reduces visible differences linked to fashion choices or “smartness” comparisons.

This supports a culture of:

- belonging and togetherness,
- high expectations for learning,
- readiness for all parts of the day—classroom, hall, playground, outdoors.

Supports play-based learning across the school and OPAL/outdoor provision

Because our curriculum and culture value play-based learning and outdoor experiences (including forest school, outdoor learning across all subjects and OPAL provision), an active uniform directly supports our offer by ensuring pupils are:

- dressed appropriately to move, climb, balance, run and explore,
- comfortable sitting on floors and working in practical ways,
- able to transition seamlessly between indoor learning, outdoor play and active tasks.

This promotes equality because it ensures that every child—not just those in “suitable clothes”—can access the full richness of the Roby Park day.



Equality & Inclusion

Reduces cost barriers and supports sustainability (fairness for families)

Designed with affordability in mind, an active uniform can reduce inequality by:

- allowing hand-me-down use across year groups and regardless of gender,
- reducing the need for multiple types of outfit (uniform + separate PE kit),
- making expectations clearer and more manageable for families.

This supports fairness and reduces the risk of uniform becoming a source of stress, stigma, or exclusion.



Benefits Highlighted

Why are we considering an active uniform?

Roby Park's school day includes play-based learning, outdoor provision and lots of movement. An "active uniform" (our current PE kit worn every day) is being explored to help every child feel comfortable, confident and ready to take part fully in learning and play.

What parents, carers and pupils told us (key consultation themes)

Comfort and wellbeing

Parents overwhelmingly identified comfort as the biggest benefit, often linking this to improved focus and engagement in learning. Pupils echoed this strongly, describing active uniform as "more comfortable," "not itchy," and better for learning and play.

Easier movement + more active play

Children told us active uniform makes it easier to run, climb, stretch and join in at breaktimes and in active lessons. Staff also highlighted that movement-ready clothing supports pupils to take part confidently in OPAL-style play and outdoor learning.

Inclusion and equality

Parents and staff highlighted that active uniform can better support pupils with SEND/sensory needs, pupils who struggle with fastenings and pupils who feel uncomfortable in traditional uniform (including skirts). Pupils also suggested having options for bottoms so the uniform works well for everyone.

Independence and practical routines

Parents described simpler routines (especially mornings) and fewer "PE day" issues when plans change. Staff also noted improved independence in EYFS, particularly for toileting and changing (e.g., fewer tricky items like tights/skirts).



Benefits Highlighted

PE readiness and smoother transitions

Staff believe pupils being dressed for activity and learning every day increases readiness for PE, reduces kit barriers and supports smoother transitions—protecting learning time.

What the research says

- Evidence suggests traditional uniform expectations can be associated with lower physical activity and may widen the activity gap for primary-aged girls, where clothing (e.g., skirts/dresses) can reduce confidence to join active play.
- A large systematic review reports that sports uniforms are generally linked with higher activity and more playtime, with particularly strong benefits reported for girls' active play and learning.
- UK guidance recommends children aim for an average of 60 minutes of moderate-to-vigorous activity per day across the week—movement-friendly clothing helps children be active not only in PE, but across the whole day.

How an active uniform supports Roby Park's ethos and curriculum offer

An active uniform helps all pupils access Roby Park's active, play-rich curriculum by making it easier to take part in outdoor learning, active play and practical classroom experiences. It complements OPAL-style provision and outdoor learning opportunities, where evidence reports improved equity of play experiences (including for girls and children with additional needs) when barriers to participation are reduced.



Consultation Priorities



Keeping it affordable and accessible

National statutory guidance is clear that school uniform should promote identity and belonging, but must also be affordable. Schools are expected to prioritise cost and value for money, minimise reliance on single-supplier arrangements, and ensure families can access uniform items easily (including through second-hand provision). Parents and carers echoed this strongly during consultation, with affordability and ease of access raised as key considerations—particularly where families may need multiple sets to get through the week.

How the proposed active uniform supports affordability and access at Roby Park:

- **One uniform rather than two:** Moving to an active uniform removes the need for families to purchase a separate PE kit alongside a traditional uniform, reducing overall uniform spend across the year.
- **Wider availability and ability to shop around:** The proposal prioritises uniform items that can be purchased easily from mainstream retailers (e.g., George at ASDA), improving convenience and allowing families to access affordable multipacks. (School proposal/implementation plan)
- **Reducing reliance on branded items:** Introducing plain white crew-neck t-shirts removes the cost and comfort barrier associated with branded PE tops, while still maintaining a consistent uniform look.
- **Affordable, standard items:** Introducing navy PE shorts (and other navy bottom options) increases accessibility because they are widely available, easy to replace, and more affordable than specialist items. (School proposal/implementation plan, aligned with parent affordability concerns)
- **Footwear savings:** Removing the requirement for formal school shoes reduces an additional cost pressure on families (particularly where children outgrow shoes quickly). (School proposal/implementation plan)
 - School-supported purchasing routes (access): School will offer the option for PE kits/uniform items to be ordered and collected via school, improving accessibility compared to travelling to a uniform shop with limited hours. (School proposal/implementation plan)
 - School will also purchase a small stock of key George items that parents may optionally buy directly from school, further supporting convenience. (School proposal/implementation plan)

Consultation Priorities



Summary statement (for minutes/policy):

This approach directly responds to stakeholder feedback and aligns with statutory guidance by focusing on value, accessibility, and minimising barriers linked to cost and supply.

Quality, choice and comfort (including sensory-friendly options)

Across the consultation, pupils and parents repeatedly emphasised that the uniform must be comfortable, made from soft fabrics, and designed to avoid irritation—especially from scratchy badges/logos. Parents also noted that if active uniform becomes everyday wear, it must be hard-wearing, wash well, and remain presentable over time.

How the proposed active uniform supports quality, comfort and inclusion:

- **Sensory-friendly design:** Plain white crew-neck t-shirts remove the barrier of itchy stitched logos and reduce discomfort for pupils with sensory sensitivities.
- **Comfort-first options:** Introducing additional items supports pupils who need softer/stretchier clothing for comfort, confidence and movement.
- **Seasonal comfort built in:** A defined summer variation supports pupils to stay cool and comfortable during warmer months—something raised by both pupils and parents.
- **Choice within consistency (identity maintained):** To ensure the uniform works for all pupils while maintaining a clear Roby Park identity, the proposal incorporates a range of navy bottom options, including:
 - navy skorts
 - navy cycling shorts
 - navy shorts

This responds to feedback about confidence, modesty, and comfort—while keeping a consistent, recognisable uniform.

Consultation Priorities

Summary statement (for minutes/policy):

The proposed uniform options respond directly to consultation feedback by prioritising comfort, sensory needs, durability and inclusive choice, while ensuring uniform consistency through a clear colour palette and approved item list.



Implementation Plan



This plan is designed to be clear, affordable, inclusive and easy to implement, reflecting stakeholder feedback about cost, access, comfort and consistency and aligned with national uniform cost expectations (affordability, minimal branded items, accessible supply routes, second-hand provision, and clear published policy).

Key Principles

1. Affordability first (reduce barriers, avoid unnecessary branded items, enable families to shop affordably).
2. Comfort and inclusion by design (sensory-friendly options, choice of bottoms, seasonal flexibility).
3. Access and convenience (school-based ordering/collection, pre-loved on-site, clear information). [
4. Consistency and school identity (clear item list, colours, and simple expectations to avoid drift into “any sportswear”).
5. Sustainability (re-use, recycling and reduced waste as part of the roll-out).

Timeline & Actions (April–September 2026)

Spring Term 2 (April–May 2026): Preparation & Set-Up

A. Finalise the uniform specification

- Confirm the core items and approved options (including summer options and sensory-friendly items).
- Confirm what is compulsory vs optional, keeping branded items to an absolute minimum to protect affordability and access.
- Agree footwear expectations (e.g., trainers) to remove cost burden of formal shoes and support active play (with guidance for younger pupils).

B. Create the “Uniform Hub” at school (Pre-loved + Recycling + Spares)

- Pre-loved uniform (help-yourself) - Set up a clearly labelled area. “Help yourself” model: no questions asked, accessible at pick-up drop-off times (and by appointment if needed).

Implementation Plan

- Recycling old uniform (sustainability) - Set up a “Recycle & Reuse” point in school: Reusable items go into the pre-loved store (washed, good condition). Non-reusable items go into textile recycling (separate bin/bags), supporting sustainability and reducing waste.
- Emergency spares - Build a small stock of spare items (clean, labelled) so no child is disadvantaged on a day a family is transitioning or waiting for an order.

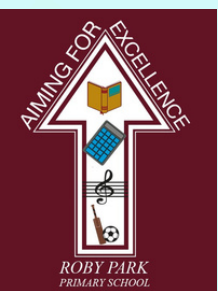
Summer Term 1 (May–June 2026): Communication + Policy Publication

Publish an explicit, parent-friendly uniform policy (with links)

On the website and in paper form:

- One-page “Approved Active Uniform” list (with pictures if possible)
- What to wear (everyday list)
- Summer variation (shorts/skorts/cycling shorts options)
- Sensory-friendly option (plain white crew-neck t-shirt)
- Footwear guidance (including EYFS and KS1-friendly fastenings)
- Where to buy: direct links to items (e.g., George/ASDA) + school ordering route + pre-loved info
- Clear “what is not allowed”

This directly addresses stakeholder concerns about consistency and protects identity while keeping costs down and supply accessible.



Implementation Plan

Parent engagement and clarity

- Send a uniform change briefing:
 - why the change (comfort, inclusion, OPAL/play-based curriculum, readiness)
 - what changes and what doesn't
 - transition arrangements

Summer Term 2 (June–July 2026): Ordering & On-site Purchasing

A. School ordering and collection (summer term)

To reduce reliance on uniform shops and improve access:

- Offer online order form / paper order form through school.
- Set two ordering windows (e.g., mid-June and early July) so families can spread cost and ensure delivery.
- Provide collection from school (

B. School-stocked essentials (optional purchase from school)

- School purchases a limited range of core George items (popular sizes) that families can buy directly from school if preferred (particularly supporting families with limited time/transport).

C. Pre-loved uniform: expand and promote

- Hold a Pre-loved Uniform Week:
 - donations drop-off (washed, bagged, labelled)
 - “swap shop” event
 - ensure new starters know they can access it.

D. Recycling drive for old uniform

- Two-week “Uniform Recycling Drive”:
 - collect old traditional uniform items
 - sort into “reuse” and “recycle” streams
 - communicate sustainability impact to pupils (eco message)



Implementation Plan

End of Summer Term (July 2026): Final Readiness

- **Final reminder message:**
 - “From September 2026 the active uniform becomes everyday uniform”
 - link to the policy and purchase options
 - pre-loved opening times and how to access support discreetly.

Launch (September 2026): Soft Start + Support

A. First 2–3 weeks: supportive transition (“soft enforcement”)

- No sanctions approach initially; focus on support and consistency:
 - quiet reminders
 - offer pre-loved/spare items same day if needed
 - contact home to signpost purchasing routes

B. Ongoing: maintain uniform hub weekly

- Pre-loved “top up” each week (sort, refill, wash returns).
- Continue recycling collection for any remaining items.



Methods to Ensure All Families Adhere to Policy Expectations

The goal is high expectations with high support, so uniform does not become a barrier to attendance, inclusion or participation.

A. Make compliance easy (clarity + access)

- Simple policy with photos and direct links.
- Multiple purchase routes: mainstream retailer links + school order/collection + pre-loved.
- Seasonal options clearly defined so families can comply year-round.

B. Consistent messaging from all staff

- Staff use the same language: “approved uniform items” and “plain/navy/no large logos.”
- Remind pupils positively in class assemblies and newsletters (belonging, readiness, inclusion).

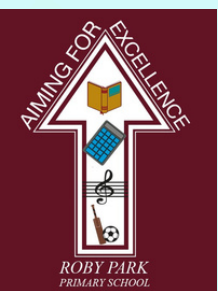
C. A graduated response to non-compliance (support-first)

Step 1 – Gentle reminder (child/parent)

Step 2 – Practical support offered (pre-loved items, school ordering, short-term spare)

Step 3 – Meeting/signposting (if repeated)

Step 4 – Formal follow-up only where needed, ensuring affordability barriers are addressed first.



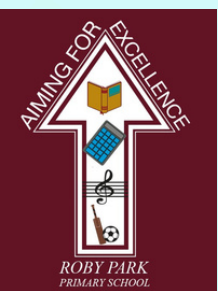
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D. Discreet support to remove stigma

- Pre-loved is help-yourself for all families.
- Spare uniform offered discreetly (no child singled out).
- Signpost any additional support routes sensitively.

E. Monitor and improve

- Track:
 - common items causing problems (availability/quality)
 - supply issues (sizes, delivery)
 - consistency issues (logos/colours/footwear)



Simple Planning Checklist

By end of May 2026

- Uniform list finalised (incl. summer + sensory-friendly options)
- Uniform hub set up (pre-loved + recycling + spares)

By mid-June 2026

- Policy published on website with retailer links + school order route [
- Parent comms sent + drop-in held

By July 2026

- Summer term ordering live + collection system running
- Pre-loved week and recycling drive completed

September 2026

- Soft launch (support-first), then consistent expectations



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