(Assume parent sending email)

Dear Head teacher of [School name],

I am writing to ask [School name] to consider a vegan-inclusive school uniform policy. My/Our child, [Child’s name], is vegan. While maintaining the high standards of uniform at school, I/we would like my/our child to be able to dress in accordance with their conscience.

You may or may not know, veganism is a protected philosophy and way of living which seeks to exclude – as far as is possible and practicable – all forms of exploitation of, and cruelty to, animals for food, clothing or any other purpose. From our perspective other animals and animal skins are not sources of material; therefore, (our/my) child (insert name) will not feel comfortable wearing these items.

**Inclusive**

As you will be aware discrimination against vegans is prohibited under equality law.

Equality considerations for vegans extends to respecting their beliefs in terms of uniform requirements, and I would like to see pupils allowed to dress in accordance with their protected beliefs.

**Production**

Requirements for leather in school uniform (whether for shoes or sports equipment) conflict with vegan beliefs, because we do not exploit animals for clothing or any other purpose and cannot wear the skin of a slaughtered animal.

Wool jumpers are also not acceptable to vegans. Sheep have been bred to produce excessive hair, which causes them suffering in the heat and frequent infections. Sheep are often injured during shearing, and all commercial sheep are slaughtered for the final use of their wool.

**Alternatives**

Could I/we please suggest instead a requirement for ‘smart’ school shoes, and a requirement for a jumper of the right colour, with a school badge added if required.

I/We appreciate your work to cultivate an inclusive school environment, where pupils dress and behave to show respect to themselves and others.

If you would like any further information, [The Vegan Society](https://www.vegansociety.com/lifestyle/vegan-inclusive-education) has lots of useful resources and can support your staff in developing their vegan-inclusive practice with CPD accredited training.

A concise guide for educators on how to provide a vegan-inclusive education can be found [here](https://www.vegansociety.com/sites/default/files/uploads/downloads/TVS_Education%20Booklet_A5_DIGITAL.pdf).

Thank you for reading this letter. I/We would be more than happy to work in partnership with you on any issues raised because of my/our request.

Yours sincerely,

[Sender name]