

School Uniforms

Did you know that each year we spend around £950 million on the clothes we wear to school?¹

But some school uniforms may have been produced by children as young as 7, working 13 hours a day in bad conditions. Why?

Lots of school uniforms are made from cotton, and most cotton is grown in developing countries such as India or parts of Africa. Unfortunately, because the majority of the clothes we buy aren't made from Fairtrade cotton this causes lots of problems for the farmers and their children:

- ⇒ Farmers become ill because they use very dangerous pesticides on the crops².
- ⇒ The drinking water for the farmer's community can become polluted with the chemicals from the cotton.
- ⇒ Children are taken out of school to work picking cotton, or do not get access to education at all because they are sewing our clothes.
- ⇒ Farmers aren't getting enough money and have to borrow money in order to survive with very high interest rates which they then can't afford to pay back.



What can you do?

There are lots of ways that schools can become part of the solution to the problems outlined above. You could order Fairtrade school uniforms. You will find a list on the following pages of shops and websites that sell Fairtrade cotton uniforms.

You could use Fairtrade cotton for your P.E kits or other activities, for example, you could get a personalised Fairtrade cotton tea towel printed with Bishopston Trading Company.



Mamouna Keita is a Fairtrade cotton farmer in Mali

You could write to school uniform shops to let them know that you would like them to sell Fairtrade school uniforms. The great news is that this really works! Tesco have just announced that they are going to double their range of Fairtrade school uniform and this is all because of pressure from schools in the People & Planet 'wear fair' campaign.

¹ http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/life_and_style/education/article6711382.ece

² <http://www.peopletree.co.uk/content/AGROCELprofile.php>



Fairtrade School Wear Suppliers

Don't forget to ask your current supplier to see if they will stock a Fairtrade option!

Alison Jones School Wear

Fairtrade school wear and sports kits for schools in Ceredigion

Online: www.alisonjoneschoolwear.co.uk

Tel: 01970 625288

Email: alisonjones.schoolwear@btinternet.com

Cotton Roots

Polo shirts, t-shirts, shirts and blouses, caps, bags, aprons, catering uniforms, hoodies and sweatshirts

Online: <http://www.cottonroots.co.uk/>

Tel: 01908 290482 or 511395

Email: sales@cottonroots.co.uk

Gossypium

A selection of clothes for children, young people and adults, including some plain t-shirts and shirts

Online retailer: www.gossypium.co.uk

Tel: 0870 850 9953

Email: Use contact page on website:

<http://www.gossypium.co.uk/contact/>

M&S

Usually offer a range of Fairtrade polo-shirts and shirts. However this year's school uniform line had not been confirmed at the time of printing.

Online: www.marksandspencer.com

Address: Wales wide

Tel: 0845 609 0200

Email: Use contact page on website:

www.marksandspencer.com/gp/contact

Revolver

Will order to your request. Offers t-shirts, polo shirts etc

Online: <http://revolverworld.com/>

Tel: 0161 438 2004

Email: paul.birch@revolverworld.com

School Uniform Shop

Offers Fairtrade polo shirts, sweatshirts, trousers, shirts and blouses

Online retailer: www.schooluniformshop.co.uk

Tel: 01432 344103

Email: sales@schooluniformshop.co.uk



Cymru Masnach Deg
Fair Trade Wales

Tarameen

An importer who make products to order

Online: www.tarameen.com , also www.esteameurope.com

Tel: 0121 2700 877

Email: tarameen@marfani.com

Tesco

A range of Fairtrade school uniform, full range available from July 2010

Online: www.clothingattesco.com

Address: Wales wide

Tel: 08450 755 000

Email: clothing@tesco.co.uk

The Co-operative Clothing

Fairtrade polo-shirts, t-shirts and aprons, adult sizes suitable for secondary schools

Online retailer: www.co-operative.coop/en/Clothing/

Tel: 0845 521 0051

Email: Use the contact page on website: www.co-operative.coop/Clothing/contact-us/

Trutux

Offers a wide range of Fairtrade polo shirts, sweatshirts, trousers, shirts and blouses

Online: www.trutex.com (available for retailers only)

Tel: 01200 421200

Email: Use contact page on website:

http://www.trutex.com/contact_us.php

Bargoed, Wales —
Trutex Schoolwear & More
13-15 Hanbury Road
Bargoed, Wales
CF81 8QS
Tel: 01443 837555

St Asaph—Tweed Mill Factory Outlet
Llannerch Park
St Asaph
LL17 0UY
Tel: 01432 267448

Newport—
Trutex Schoolwear & More
26 Cambrian Road
Newport
NP20 4AB
Tel: 01633 222261

Tredegar, Wales—Trutex Schoolwear & More
Unit 1 Crown Business Park
Dukestown
Tredegar, Wales
NP22 4EF
Tel: 01495 725777



➡ The following suppliers do not offer school uniform, but offer other items which may be of interest to schools:

Bishopston Trading

Customised printing of Fairtrade cotton tea towels and catering uniforms for canteen staff

Online retailer: www.bishopstontrading.co.uk (hard copy catalogue available)

Tel: 0117 924 5598

Email: mail@bishopstontrading.co.uk

Epona

A good range of plain Fairtrade t-shirts, polo tops and hoodies with printing/embroidery service. Suitable for secondary schools

Online retailer: www.eponaclothing.com

Tel: 0207 095 9888

Email: info@eponaclothing.com

People Tree

A selection of clothes for children and young people, including some plain t-shirts and shirts

Online retailer: www.peopletree.co.uk (hard copy catalogue available)

Tel: 020 7739 9659

Email: people@peopletree.co.uk