



School Uniform Policy

June 2023

Approved by:	Governing Body	Date: 18 th June 2023
Last reviewed on:	June 2023	
Next review due by:	June 2024	

1. Aims

This policy aims to:

- Set out our approach to requiring a uniform that is of reasonable cost and offers the best value for money for parents and carers
- Explain how we will avoid discrimination in line with our legal duties under the Equality Act 2010
- Clarify our expectations for school uniform

- **2. Our school's legal duties under the Equality Act 2010**
- The Equality Act 2010 prohibits discrimination against an individual based on the protected characteristics, which include sex, race, religion or belief, and gender reassignment.
- To avoid discrimination, our school will:
 - Avoid listing uniform items based on sex, to give all pupils the opportunity to wear the uniform they feel most comfortable in or that most reflects their self-identified gender
 - Make sure that our uniform costs the same for all pupils
 - Allow all pupils to have long hair (though we reserve the right to ask for this to be tied back)
 - Allow all pupils to style their hair in the way that is appropriate for school yet makes them feel most comfortable
 - Allow pupils to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons
 - Allow pupils to wear headscarves and other religious or cultural symbols
 - Allow for adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking pupils or their parents to get in touch with the headteacher, who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests

- **3. Limiting the cost of school uniform**
- Our school has a duty to make sure that the uniform we require is affordable, in line with statutory guidance from the Department for Education on the cost of school uniform.
- We understand that items with distinctive characteristics (such as branded items, or items that have to have a school logo or a unique fabric/colour/design) cannot be purchased from a wide range of retailers and that requiring many such items limits parents' ability to 'shop around' for a low price.
- We will make sure our uniform:
 - Is available at a reasonable cost
 - Provides the best value for money for parents/carers
- We will do this by:
 - Carefully considering whether any items with distinctive characteristics are necessary
 - Limiting any items with distinctive characteristics where possible
 - Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost or long-lasting items, such as ties

- Considering cheaper alternatives to school-branded items, such as logos that can be ironed on, as long as this doesn't compromise quality and durability
- Avoiding specific requirements for items pupils could wear on non-school days, such as coats, bags and shoes
- Keeping the number of optional branded items to a minimum, so that the school's uniform can act as a social leveler
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for different year/class/house groups
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities
- Considering alternative methods for signaling differences in groups for interschool competitions, such as creating posters or labels
- Making sure that arrangements are in place for parents to acquire second-hand uniform items
- Avoiding frequent changes to uniform specifications and minimising the financial impact on parents of any changes
- Consulting with parents and pupils on any proposed significant changes to the uniform policy and carefully considering any complaints about the policy

4. Expectations for school uniform

4.1 Our school's uniform

Our policy is based on the notion that school uniform;

- promotes a sense of pride in the school
- engenders a sense of community and belonging towards the school
- is practical and smart
- identifies the children with the school
- prevents children from coming to school in fashion clothes that could be distracting in class
- makes children feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance
- is regarded as suitable wear for school and good value for money
- is designed with health and safety in mind

Our current uniform requirements are;

- sky blue or white polo shirt
- navy sweatshirt, jumper or cardigan
- navy, black or grey trousers or smart shorts
- navy, black or grey skirt or pinafore
- blue checked dress
- black school shoes

- all children require a school book bag

Uniform does not necessarily need to bear the school logo but we ask that all children wear the school colours and clothing/shoes that they can put on and take off independently. This is especially important for PE days. We have requirements for clothing for PE which are;

- Indoor PE – navy shorts, white t-shirt
- Outdoor PE – joggers, leggings, sweat top
- Trainers with Velcro fasteners (please avoid laces until your child is able to fasten them)

PE clothes should be kept in a named draw-string bag which can be purchased from school. This bag will only be sent home at the end of each half term, therefore please do not send clothes that your child will need outside of school.

We ask that your child always brings a jacket/fleece/coat to school just in case. The children can be outside for at least 50 minutes over lunchtime. Please also provide a hat, particularly in the summer months.

4.2 Where to purchase it

School uniform and items are available to purchase on the internet or forms are available from the school office if you would like us to order them for you.

5. Expectations for our school community

5.1 Pupils

Pupils are expected to wear the correct uniform at all times (other than specified non-school uniform days) while:

- On the school premises
- Travelling to and from school
- At out-of-school events or on trips that are organised by the school, or where they are representing the school (if required)
- Pupils are also expected to contact the headteacher if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to their protected characteristics.
-

5.2 Parents and carers

Parents and carers are expected to make sure their child has the correct uniform and PE kit, and that every item is:

- Clean
- Clearly labelled with the child's name
- In good condition
- Parents are also expected to contact the headteacher if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to:
- Their child's protected characteristics
- The cost of the uniform

Parents are expected to lodge any complaints or objections relating to the school uniform in a timely and reasonable manner.

Disputes about the cost of the school uniform will be:

- Resolved locally
- Dealt with in accordance with our school's complaints policy

The school will work closely with parents to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.

5.3 Staff

Staff will closely monitor pupils to make sure they are in correct uniform. They will give any pupils and families breaching the uniform policy the opportunity to comply, but will follow up with the headteacher if the situation doesn't improve.

Ongoing breaches of our uniform policy will be dealt with by the headteacher in line with the schools behaviour policy.

In cases where it is suspected that financial hardship has resulted in a pupil not complying with this uniform policy, staff will take a mindful and considerate approach to resolving the situation.

5.4 Governors

The governing board will review this policy and make sure that it:

- Is appropriate for our school's context
- Is implemented fairly across the school
- Takes into account the views of parents and pupils
- Offers a uniform that is appropriate, practical and safe for all pupils

The board will also make sure that the school's uniform supplier arrangements give the highest priority to cost and value for money, for example by avoiding single supplier contracts and by re-tendering contracts at least every 5 years.

6. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed annually by the school business manager. At every review, it will be approved by the full governing body.

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

- Behaviour policy
- Equality information and objectives statement
- Anti-bullying policy
- Complaints policy
- Health and safety policy