

Uniform Policy 2025-2028

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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 <u>Equality Act 2010</u> prohibits discrimination against an individual based on the protected characteristics, which include age, sex, disability, race, religion or belief, pregnancy and maternity, 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 pupils to request changes for religious reasons
- > Allow pupils to wear headscarves and/or other religious garments
- > Allow pupils with sensory, physical or medical needs to request reasonable adaptations to their uniform depending on their specific needs

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 <u>guidance</u> from the Department for Education (DfE) on the cost of school uniform.

We understand that items with distinctive characteristics (such as branded items, or items that need 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/carers' 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:

- > Limiting items with distinctive characteristics where possible
- Avoiding specific requirements for items pupils could wear on non-school days, such as coats, bags and shoes
- > Ensuring the uniform can be purchased from a range of retailers, allowing parents to shop around
- > 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 years/classes
- > Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities
- > Making sure that arrangements are in place for parents/carers to acquire second-hand uniform items
- Avoiding frequent changes to uniform specifications and minimising the financial impact on parents/carers of any changes
- > Consulting parents/carers 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 active uniform

Pale blue polo shirt

Navy blue sweatshirt with logo - these can be purchased through the school office.

Plain black bottoms - shorts, leggings, jogging bottoms or linen trousers (no logos please)

Trainers – these need to be predominantly black

Wellies (any design) – If you are unable to provide these, please speak to your child's teacher as we have a stock of spares they can use

Waterproof Trousers (any design) – These can be purchased from the school office if you wish. If you are unable to provide these, please speak to your child's teacher as we have a stock of spares they can use.

Our school uniform allows PE to take place without changing. Therefore, your child does not require a PE kit. We do recommend bringing spare clothes in their school bags (including pants and socks) in case they get wet, muddy, have a toileting accident or wish to change their polo-shirt for hygiene reasons.

4.2 Where to purchase it

Add details including:

- > School jumpers are only available through the school office (payable via ParentMail)
- > Waterproof Trousers can be purchased through the school office or can be purchased from other retailers.
- > All other items can be purchased through a range of retailers, including supermarkets
- > Second-hand uniform:
 - o FOHPS sell secondhand uniform at least three times per year at school events.

5. Expectations for our school community

5.1 Pupils

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

> On the school premises

> At out-of-school events or on trips that are organised by the school, or where they are representing the school (if required)

Pupils/Parents/Carers are 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 that every item is:

- > Clean (within reason we are aware that children don't stay clean for long)
- > Clearly labelled with the child's name
- > In good condition

Parents/carers are also expected to contact their class teacher or the SENDCo 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/carers 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/carers 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 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/carers 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 every 3 years. At every review, it will be approved by the Full Governing Board.

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

- > Behaviour policy
- > Equality information and objectives statements
- > Anti-bullying policy
- > Complaints policy

