

School Uniform Policy



Contents

- Aims
- Our school's legal duties under the Equality Act 2010
- Limiting the cost of school uniform
- Expectations for school uniform
- Expectations for our school community
- Monitoring arrangements
- Links to other policies

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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 Equality Act 2010 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
- › 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 a way that is appropriate for school and makes them feel most comfortable
- › Allow pupils to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons or if they are experiencing discomfort related to their sex or gender
- › Allow pupils to wear headscarves and/or other religious garments
- › Allow pupils with sensory or physical needs to make reasonable adaptations to their uniform depending on their specific needs
- › Allow for reasonable adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking pupils or their parents/carers to get in touch with Mrs Pitcher, who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests. These will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

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 (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:

- › 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 and/or long-lasting items
- › Avoiding specific requirements for items pupils could wear on non-school days, such as coats, and bags

- › Keeping the number of optional branded items to a minimum, so that the school's uniform can act as a social leveller
- › Limiting different uniform requirements for different year/class/house groups
- › 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 with 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 uniform

Our uniform consists of:

- grey trousers/shorts/skirt/pinafore
- sky blue polo shirt or cotton shirt/blouse (logo optional)
- burgundy sweatshirt/cardigan/jumper (logo optional)
- plain grey/white school socks/ tights (trainer socks not permitted)
- sturdy flat black shoes.

We ask that your child wears their uniform neatly with shirts tucked in and collars down. Shoes should be black, low heeled, sensible, with velcro/black laces. Please be aware that some shoe retailers will label certain trainers as suitable for school. *Footwear should not be trainers.*

Our PE kit consists of:

- black shadow stripe shorts
- plain black tracksuit bottoms for winter outdoor lessons
- black plimsolls/trainers
- Plain round neck t-shirt in team colour.
- Swimming costume or trunks

Families are reminded that children should not be wearing jewellery, apart from stud earrings. Long hair needs to be tied back and headbands plain. Haircuts should not be shorter than a grade 2, with no markings.

4.2 Where to purchase it

Uniform is available from most major retailers and supermarkets. Items with the school logo, such as the school jumper, may be purchased from PMG Schoolwear, Chessington (www.pmg-schoolwear.co.uk)

We also regularly hold second hand uniform sales. If you require any second hand uniform at other times, please contact the school office.



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
- › At out-of-school events or on trips that are organised by the school, or where they are representing the school

Pupils are also expected to contact Mrs Pitcher 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/carers are also expected to contact Mrs Pitcher 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 Mrs Pitcher.

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.

6. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed every four years.

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

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

