

# **School Uniform Policy**

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## 1. Aims

This policy aims to:

- Set out our approach to requiring a uniform that is of reasonable cost, embodies our commitment to sustainability and environmental responsibility and offers 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 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 Head Teacher (via the school office email)

## 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
- 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)
- Enable Pupil Premium children to receive a discount on all logo items
- Avoiding 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 to acquire second-hand uniform items
- Avoiding frequent changes to uniform specifications and minimising the financial impact on parents of any changes
- Carefully considering any complaints about the policy

## 4. Expectations for school uniform

## 4.1 Our school's uniform

Add details of your school uniform to this section, including:

• Logo items are: jumpers/sweatshirt, cardigans and polo shirts

- Optional logo item: Fleece
- Acceptable generic items are: trousers, socks, dresses, royal blue fleece, coats, bags
- For PE children should wear dark shorts and a white t-shirt. In cold weather, children should wear their school jumper/sweatshirt and dark joggers or leggings.
- All long hair should be tied back for Health and Safety reasons. Jewellery and makeup (including nail varnish) should not be worn at any time other than for religious reasons. Pierced ears should be decorated with a simple stud to prevent closure
- Coldfall supports and endorses the 'Halo Code' in respect of hairstyles Halo Code School (halocollective.co.uk)

### 4.2 Where to purchase it

Logo school uniform items (see above) can be purchased from our supplier Eco
outfitters. This will be sold through their website: <a href="https://ecooutfitters.co.uk/">https://ecooutfitters.co.uk/</a>
It will be available to purchase in person once each term.

Non-logo items such as trousers, dresses etc. can be bought widely from any 'high-street' retailers.

 Second-hand uniform can be obtained at one of the Friends of Coldfall School uniform sales. These are held termly and parents will be informed of the dates, location and times in advance.

## 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 Head Teacher 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 Head Teacher if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to:

• Their child's protected characteristics

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

The school staff will aim to support any pupils and families who have challenges meeting the school's uniform requirements. In cases where it is suspected that financial hardship has resulted in a pupil not complying with the uniform policy the school will take a mindful and considerate approach when 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 3 years.

## 6. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed every 2 years by the School's Business Manager and Head Teacher. At every review, it will then be sent for approval 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

### March 2024