



# School uniform policy

Our school is a place 'where learners grow.' A kind community where the worth of everyone is nurtured and celebrated. We are rooted in a love of learning and building the confidence and courage to be ourselves. Together we flourish to be the best that we can be.

<b>Approved by:</b>	Pupil Business Group	<b>Date:</b> March 2022
<b>Last reviewed on:</b>	April 2022	
<b>Next review due by:</b>	March 2025	

## 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 the school logo where possible
  - 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 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 through our New 2 You Shop (in school)
- 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 on school uniform 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 by most parents; · is designed with health and safety in mind.

### Jewellery

We do not allow children to wear jewellery in our school – this is because they could constitute a risk to the health and safety of children and staff. The exceptions to this rule are ear-ring studs in pierced ears, and small objects of religious significance. We ask the children to either remove these objects during PE and games, or cover them with a plaster, to prevent them from causing injury.

### Extreme haircuts

The school does not permit children to have 'extreme' haircuts that could serve as a distraction to other children.

### Footwear

The school wants all children to grow into healthy adults. We believe that it is dangerous for children to wear shoes that have platform soles or high heels, so we do not allow children to wear such shoes in our school. We ask that shoes with flashing lights are not worn as these can cause a distraction to the child wearing them and to others.

## **Bags**

Children should not bring any bags into school with the exception of a school reading bag. This is primarily because of the extremely limited amount of storage space in school.

## **Coats**

Children should have outer wear (such as coats, hats, scarves) dress appropriately for the weather this includes a coat.

## **PE Kits**

Currently children should wear PE kits for the day when they have a scheduled PE lesson.

## **2 Where to purchase it**

Our School uniform can be purchased in a number of ways.

- Our branded uniform (including sweatshirts) can be bought direct from Skip 2 School, Skipton
- A range of non-branded uniform is available from High Street Retailers.
- The School Office and PTFA operates a New 2 You Uniform Shop where parents can make a donation of whatever they can afford. We also accept donations of good quality second hand uniform.

## **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.

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 every three years by the Headteacher. At every review, it will be approved by Governors School Business Group.

## **7. Links to other policies**

This policy is linked to our:

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