

Small enough to care...big enough to inspire

School Uniform Policy

Introduction

It is our policy that all children should wear school uniform when attending school, or when participating in a school organised event outside normal school hours. We provide a complete list of all the items needed for the children's school uniform in this policy. Items of uniform embroidered with the school logo and school ties are available to order via the AC Sports website. (www.acsports.co.uk). Items of clothing that are not embroidered with the school logo may be purchased through any retailer, including second-hand retailers if preferred.

Aims and objectives

Our policy is based on the notion that a school uniform:

- promotes a sense of pride in the school;
- engenders a feeling of community and belonging;
- is practical and smart;
- identifies the children with the school;
- is not distracting in class (as fashion clothes might be);
- makes children feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance;
- is regarded as suitable, and good value for money, by most parents;
- has been designed with health and safety in mind.

As part of our ethos, we would like all children to wear the correct uniform properly at all times. This includes to and from school, the playground, corridors and classrooms. This should also include the correct P.E. uniform for P.E. lessons and for sporting events.

It is important for the promotion of social independence that the younger children are able to manage their own clothes and shoes (no laces). This should be considered when purchasing school uniform. In order to return lost property, all uniform and personal items should be clearly marked with your child's name.

<u>School Uniform</u> (all items are required unless stated otherwise)

Reception - Year 6

- a navy v-neck knitted sweater or cardigan embroidered with the school logo
- white collared shirt (not a polo shirt / collared t-shirt)
- tie (clip-on or full tie)
- **grey** trousers or a **grey** skirt / pinafore dress
- white, navy or grey socks or grey tights
- a blue gingham dress in the summer months* with white socks (optional summer uniform)
- grey shorts (optional summer* uniform)
 - *after the Easter holidays until October half-term.

Nursery

• school uniform as above **OR** navy blue polo shirt & navy sweatshirt/sweat cardigan with school logo, plus any comfortable trousers/skirt

P.E. Uniform

For PE, children need trainers and/or pumps that can be managed independently.

- Navy blue round neck t shirt with embroidered school logo
- Navy blue shorts (not cycle shorts)
- Trainers and/or black plimsolls plus white or grey socks
- Navy hooded sweatshirt or zip up hoodie (preferably with school logo)
- Navy joggers (not leggings)

Footwear

Footwear should be black school shoes, not trainers or boots. We believe that it is both practical and safer for children to wear flat and sensible shoes. Platform soles or high heels are not suited to the busy school day. Shoes must be changed for P.E

Jewellery, hair and make up

Children are expected to leave jewellery, make up and fashion hairstyles for the weekends and holiday times. Children are not allowed to come to school with unnatural coloured dyed or outlandish/extreme hairstyles that cause a distraction to others. Hair should be tied back if it is shoulder length or longer, using sensible hair bobbles or clips. Hair decorations (e.g. flowers or decorative hair bands) should not be worn. The only jewellery permitted in school on health and safety grounds is a wristwatch and a medical bracelet. Watches should be removed and medical bracelets covered with a sweatband to partake in P.E.

<u>Earrings</u>

Earrings are discouraged in school. If parents opt for their child to wear earrings they must only be small studs, either silver or gold. Children who are participating in P.E., swimming, sports clubs and /or physical activities must not wear earrings. On days when these activities are scheduled, children must leave their earrings at home. We do not want pupils removing and replacing earrings. This is due to the potential risk of injury, earrings being lost and the spread of infections. It is therefore recommended that children do not come to school wearing earrings on these days. Children will be asked to remove earrings and to store them themselves. Staff will not be responsible for the removal, insertion or storage of earrings.

Make up and cosmetics are not considered appropriate or consistent with our school uniform.

As our learning environment is both indoors and outdoors, we ask that children are equipped for these areas at all times of year. It is important to ensure that clothing is practical and suitable for the seasonal changes; waterproof jackets and winter clothing for cold weather and a sun hat in the summer months. Children may bring sun cream into school during hot weather and apply it themselves during the day.

Non - compliance with school uniform

The Headteacher can discipline pupils for breach of uniform policy. Children will be sent home with a note to parents highlighting the breach of policy and asking them to

remedy the breach. However, the school will endeavour to establish the reasons for non-compliance and will be sensitive if parents are in financial difficulty. The school may loan missing items of uniform to ensure that children do not feel discriminated against, should parents be unable or unwilling to provide them with the required items of uniform. At the discretion of the local authority, a school clothing grant may be offered to assist families with school clothing costs. No child will be disciplined for non-compliance because of their particular cultural, race or religious dress code.

Role of Parents and Governors

We ask all parents who send their children to our school to support the school uniform policy. We believe that parents have a duty to send their children to school correctly dressed and ready for their daily school work. One of the responsibilities of parents is to ensure that their child has the correct uniform, and that it is clean and in good repair. If any parent would like the school to modify the uniform policy, they should make representation, in the first instance, to the Headteacher. The school welcomes children from all backgrounds and faith communities. If there are serious reasons, for example religious objections, why parents want their child to wear clothes that differ from the school uniform, the school will look sympathetically at such requests. Similarly, should an item of school uniform prove problematic for a child with disabilities then parents are invited to draw this to the attention of the Headteacher. The school will not treat children with disabilities unfavourably.

The Board of Governors supports the Headteacher in implementing the school uniform policy. It considers all representations from parents regarding this policy, and liaises with the Headteacher to ensure that the policy is implemented fairly and with sensitivity. It is the governors' responsibility to ensure that the school uniform meets all national regulations concerning equal opportunities, and that our school uniform policy is consistent with our policy on equal opportunities. Governors ensure that the school uniform policy helps children to dress sensibly, in clothing that is hardwearing, safe and practical.

Monitoring and review

When monitoring this policy, through its committee work, the Board of Governors will

- Seek the views of parents, to be sure that they agree with the policy, and support it;
- Consider with the Headteacher any requests from parents for individual children to have special dispensations;
- Require the Headteacher to report to the governors on the way the policy is being implemented.

This policy will be reviewed by the Board of Governors every two years, or earlier if considered necessary.

Policy written by: Debra Eaton, June 2019, June 2021, 2023

Next review: September 2025