

## Policy Statement on Uniform

### *Learning Together, Learning for Life.*

#### Our School Values



Approved by: Head Teacher		Date: 27.3.24
Chair of Governors		22/3/24
Last reviewed on:	March 24	
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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 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 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, gender or gender reassignment
- 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 the school office (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.



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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 (the logo is optional for School jumpers and cardigans– See School Dress Code (Appendix A)
- Keeping the number of optional branded items to a minimum, so that the school's uniform can act as a social leveller
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for different year/class/house groups
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities
- Considering alternative methods for signalling differences in groups for interschool competitions, such as creating posters or labels
- 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

- See School Dress Code – Appendix A

### 4.2 Where to purchase it

School Uniform including items with the school logo can be purchased online from Price and Buckland at <https://www.pbuniform-online.co.uk/paultoninfant>

## 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



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Parents/carers 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
- › 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 contacting the pupil's parents/carers.

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

## 6. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed every two years by Emily Omell., Head Teacher. At every review, it will be approved by the Chair of Governors, Charlotte Seabrook.

## 7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

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

## Appendix A

### School Dress Code

Our school dress code is that children should wear the school colours of navy, grey and white. The style of clothing may reflect a family preference, but extremes of fashions are not acceptable or appropriate for school either in clothes, footwear or hairstyle. Denim jeans are not acceptable. Shoes worn to school should be appropriate. High heels, backless sandals and “flip-flops” are not safe and must not be worn in school.

#### UNIFORM

Blue jumper or cardigan (with or without logo)



Blue/white polo shirt or a white shirt (with or without logo)



Grey trousers, shorts, skirt or pinafore



Blue summer dress (seasonal)



**Grey, white, navy or black tights or socks and sensible black school shoes.**

Please ensure **ALL** items of clothing and footwear are **NAMED**.

**P.E.**

It is parents' responsibility to ensure children have the appropriate clothing in school for P.E. lessons. **ALL ITEMS MUST BE NAMED.**

P.E. kit needs to be kept in a **named** draw-string bag. This can be any colour or pattern - we want children to be able to spot their bag independently



White T-shirt (with or without logo)



Navy or black shorts, jogging bottoms or leggings may be preferable in colder months



Daps or trainers that your child can put on and take off independently - no laces



A school logo hoody or zip up jacket are also available for P.E. (these are optional additional items)

School Uniform including items with the school logo can be purchased online from Price and Buckland at

<https://www.pbuniform-online.co.uk/paultoninfant>

## JEWELLERY

The wearing of jewellery is not allowed. If your child has pierced ears, stud earrings only may be worn, for Health & Safety reasons these will be covered with surgical tape prior to P.E. Only one stud per ear is permitted and no other facial piercings unless there are exceptional reasons to the contrary.



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## **PERSONAL POSSESSIONS**

Children should not bring any precious or valuable “treasures” to school as we will not take responsibility should they be lost or damaged.

## **FOREST SCHOOL CLOTHING**

On Forest School Days please ensure that your child/children comes in to school wearing clothes appropriate for Forest School Activities (not school uniform) that may get wet and muddy. Arms and legs must be covered with long sleeves/legs even on hot days. **Please ensure these items are named so that items do not get lost when changing.** Children are to bring in their school uniform in a named bag on Forest School Days, so that they can change into it after their morning at Forest School. Please remember to pack spare underwear and socks as well as sometimes these can get wet. Children need to bring in their own **NAMED** waterproof covers (Puddle Suits or Two-piece suits, as well as coats if it is cold.) Please bear in mind that coats on Forest School days may get wet and muddy.

## **OUTDOOR CLOTHING**

On most days, children will spend some time outside so they will need adequate clothing. Weather can be changeable so please ensure a named raincoat is packed and that during the summer months’ children bring a named sun hat.

**PLEASE HELP BY ENSURING ALL ITEMS OF CLOTHING ARE CLEARLY MARKED WITH YOUR CHILD’S NAME.**