

# **School Uniform Policy**

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# 1. Aims

This policy aims to:

- Set out the school approach to requiring a uniform that is of reasonable cost and offers the best value for money for parents and carers
- Explain how the school will avoid discrimination in line with our legal duties under the Equality Act 2010
- Clarify our expectations for school uniform

# 2. The 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 the headteacher, who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests

# 3. Limiting the Cost of School Uniform

The school has a duty to make sure that the uniform required 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 the school logo 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. Therefore the requirement is for children to wear a green sweatshirt, jumper or cardigan. There is no requirement for clothing to have the school logo.

The school has made sure the uniform:

Is available at a reasonable cost from local supermarkets and uniform suppliers

> Provides the best value for money for parents/carers

We will do this by:

Carefully considering whether any items with distinctive characteristics are necessary

- 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/class/house 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/carers to acquire second-hand uniform items
- 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

- Green sweatshirt/jumper or cardigan
- Grey trousers/skirt/culottes/shorts/pinafore/green checked summer dress
- White/grey/black socks
- Sturdy sensible black school shoes
- Waterproof, warm coat

#### PE Kit

- Black hooded top
- Black jogging bottoms/leggings
- White crew neck T shirt
- Black shorts
- Unbranded trainers

Children will wear PE kit to school on the day timetabled for PE. Children attending after school clubs should bring kit to change into after school. Children are advised not to wear any jewellery for school for health and safety reasons. Necklaces and bracelets should not be worn. Stud ear rings may be worn but will need to be covered during PE lessons.

Children should make sure that their hair is kept tidy. Where hair is worn long children may need to tie it back for PE or other practical subjects.

#### 4.2 Where to Purchase Uniform

- > Parents/Carers can purchase uniform from local high street retailers and supermarkets.
- Second-hand uniform can be obtained from the Friends of Liscard Primary School (FoLPS)

# 5. Expectations for our School Community

# 5.1 Children

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 headteacher if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to their protected characteristics.

# **5.2 Parents and Carers**

Parents/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 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 children 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 year group leaders. 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 Body will review this policy and make sure that it:

Is appropriate for the 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 Governing Body 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 bi-annually by the headteacher. At every review, it will be approved by the full governing body.

# 7. Links to Other Policies

This policy is linked to the:

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