School uniform policy

Park Gate Primary School



Approved by:	Park Gate Primary School Governing Body	Date: 12 July 2022
Last reviewed on:		
Next review due by:	March 2025	

Contents

1. Aims	2
2. Our school's legal duties under the Equality Act 2010	2
3. Limiting the cost of school uniform	2
4. Expectations for school uniform	3
5. Expectations for our school community	4
6. Monitoring arrangements	5
7. Links to other policies	5

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 <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, Mrs McCarthy, through the school office, 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 <u>guidance</u> 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
- 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 and 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
- 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

Please ensure all items of school clothing and kit are clearly labelled with your child's name.

- Grey trousers, shorts or skirts
- · Navy blue or pale blue polo shirt, with or without the school logo
- Navy blue sweatshirt or cardigan, with or without the school logo
- Navy or black shoes, or plain navy / black shoe style trainers, without brand / logo

In warmer weather,

• Sturdy sandals with a heel strap and blue checked dresses may be worn

PE and games kit

- Navy blue or black shorts
- T-shirt of house colour
- Trainers
- In colder weather / for outdoor lessons,
- Navy or black tracksuit or jogging bottoms and plain navy or black hoodies or fleeces

On PE or games lesson days, pupils may attend school wearing their PE and games kits.

Coats, Sunhats and Wellington Boots

Warm, waterproof / resistant coats should be worn Autumn / winter and in warmer weather light weight shower proof jackets.

All pupils are encouraged to wear a hat during summer months. Pupils in years R, 1 and 2 must wear one when out at play in hot weather.

Wellington Boots are required for years R and 1.

Please remember to label these items too with your child's name.

Jewellery and Mobile Phones

Pupils are not allowed to wear items of jewellery to school. If a pupil has pierced ears only small, stud earrings may be worn. These must be removed or covered for all PE, games and swimming lessons. We suggest that for younger pupils or those who find difficulty removing earrings, that this is done at home before coming into school on PE days.

Watches may be worn to school but we cannot accept any responsibility for any damage or loss.

Mobile phones are not allowed in school. If, for any reason, your child needs a phone on their way to and from school a permission slip has be completed and the phone must be given to the class teacher in the morning and collected at the end of the day.

Hairstyles

Tramlines, Mohicans (either cut or gelled), dyed hair and other extreme styles are not permitted at any time. Long hair must be tied back.

Bags and Water bottles

Book bags, with the school logo are required for children in years R - 2. From year 3, children may bring a school bag (not too large please as we have limited space.)

All pupils need to bring a named water bottle to school each day. Please ensure that it is washed each evening.

4.2 Where to purchase uniform

Purchasing items with the school logo

- Sweatshirts, cardigans and polo shirts with the school logo are available from: Schoolkit - 149 West Street, Fareham, tel 01329 822509
- Bookbags with the school logo are available from the school office.

Purchasing items without the school logo

A number of retailers sell uniform, without the school logo but in the school colours, so parents can buy from their preferred store.

Second-hand uniform

Our school Parent Teacher Association, Friends of Park Gate Primary, arrange second-hand uniform collection and sales. However, if items are required more urgently, please ask at / email the school office who may be able to help.

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)

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, Mrs McCarthy, 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 monitor pupils to make sure they are in correct uniform. Pupils and families breaching the uniform policy will be given 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 body 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 governing body 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 where possible and by re-tendering contracts at least every 5 years.

6. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed every three years by the Headteacher and Chair of Governors. At every review, it will be approved 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